MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 FEBRUARY 1982

Reaction to UN General Assembly Resolution

The Israeli Cabinet issued an official announcement, carried by ITIM, condemning as invalid the UN General Assembly's resolution calling on member-states to boycott and impose sanctions on Israel. The announcement said the General Assembly's automatic anti-Israeli majority has again demonstrated that the United Nations is not an instrument for peace but has become a tool in the hands of hostile countries for spreading their hatred and hypocrisy and undermining the peace and security of nations. The Cabinet expressed gratitude to the 21 democratic states that voted against the resolution, noting also that many countries had abstained. It criticized representatives of countries which for over 30 years have refused to make peace or negotiate determining that Israel is not a peace-seeking country, and a superpower that invaded Afghanistan and drove the Polish Government to establish a regime of oppression for preaching to anyone about expansionism. Jerusalem radio reported that the official announcement, which was formulated by Prime Minister Menahem Begin, was approved at the 7 February Cabinet meeting despite objections by some ministers to the harsh expressions against the Soviet Union. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the UN resolution will not deter Israel from seeking a negotiated peace with all neighboring states, the Jerusalem POST reported. The spokesman described the resolution as "unjust, illogical, unbalanced and part of a chain of UN resolutions that attempt to undermine Israel's existence," and said it is basically flawed by its failure to call for a negotiated peace settlement.

According to SANA, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said the UN resolution was a victory that affirms the international community's rejection of aggresion and racism and its determination to achieve a just and lasting Middle East peace based on the UN Charter and resolutions. Referring to the paragraph of the resolution that declares that Israel does not love peace and has not abided by the UN Charter, Khaddam said the stipulation that the United Nations resort to other measures if this resolution fails to be implemented means that the organization would discuss suspending Israel's General Assembly membership. According to Beirut radio, Khaddam told the Lebanese paper AN-NAHAR that the resolution ends the legitimacy of Israel's UN membership.

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio cited a WAFA commentary on the vote that strongly criticized the United States for supporting Israel. Asserting that the United States must be seen as "directly responsible for whatever this international outlaw does," WAFA said the claim that the United States is pressuring Israel to moderate its policy is a hollow sham to disguise the fact that Israel does exactly as it pleases and, more often than not, does so with express or implicit U.S. approval.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak held talks at Chequers with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, on 6 February, MENA reported. Before departing Britain for the FRG the following day, Mubarak said in a press conference broadcast by Cairo radio that his talks had covered bilateral relations and international issues, particularly the Middle East problem, the autonomy talks and the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers. According to MENA, Foreign Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz revealed that Prime Minister Thatcher accepted an invitation from Mubarak to visit Egypt.

According to DPA, Mubarak met with FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Bonn on 8 February.

Earlier, in a 5 February Washington press conference, carried by MENA, President Mubarak said that when Egypt asserts that any declaration of principles on autonomy must be accepted by the Palestinians, it is not introducing a new condition. Egypt is not suggesting that the autonomy negotiators seek the Palestinians' prior approval before agreeing on a declaration, he said, but rather it is simply saying that all sides should realize the need to attract other Arab parties to the peace process. Contending that a bad agreement is worse

than no agreement, he said Egypt will consent to a "good formula" that is likely to win the approval of the many moderate Palestinians. Commenting on U.S. aid to Egypt, he urged U.S. private capital to be more forthcoming, claiming there are no risks involved in investing in Egypt, which is socially and politically stable.

Detailing the distribution of 64 Soviet experts among Egyptian industrial plants, he said their coming to Egypt has no political significance. In a commentary on the same issue, Cairo radio said Egypt wants normal relations with the Soviet Union.

Foreign Under Secretary al-Baz, in an interview broadcast by Monte Carlo radio, said that while the United States has not promised to hold a dialogue with the Palestinians, Egypt noticed in the recent talks in Washington that the U.S. administration was more receptive to the idea than before. Asserting that the U.S. stand on the Palestinian issue has "improved a little," Al-Baz said the talks helped increase the Reagan administration's understanding that it must get closer to recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Syria

Khaddam on Soviet Support -- Foreign Minister Khaddam, in an interview with the Paris magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL, affirmed that any aggression against Syria will call for the implementation of the provisions of the Syrian-Soviet treaty of friendship and cooperation. Israel and the United States realize very well what this means, he added.

Security Situation -- AFP reported that road traffic between Turkey and Syria has been disrupted by clashes between police and the Muslim Brotherhood in the port of Latakia. According to Jerusalem television, Syria has been forced to close its border with Turkey as a result of the unrest. However, monitored Syrian media have not reported any closure of the border. Citing Arab sources in Beirut, Jerusalem radio reported that the Syrian Army rushed armored units to Hamah to quell a popular uprising in that city.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Amal movement Command Council Chairman Nabih Birri and National Movement Executive Secretary General Muhsin Ibrahim met on 7 February to review recent factional clashes in the south, where another incident had occurred in the town of Ansar the previous day. After the meeting, Birri said they had reached a final and permanent agreement on specific measures that will affect the area. Asserting that the agreement is designed to deter any security setback in the future, Muhsin Ibrahim said the meeting was "one of the most successful ever held" and its positive results "place enormous responsibilities on our shoulders."

Reporting that an atmosphere of responsibility and frankness prevailed during the meeting, the Voice of Palestine accused "organizations linked with Israel and the Deuxieme Bureau" of "expanding and fanning the clashes and pushing them to the point of no return."

Israel

Jerusalem radio reported that the Prime Minister's Office totally denied TIME magazine's report that Prime Minister Begin last week rejected a proposal by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to launch an operation in Lebanon. MA'ARIV subsequently cited Sharon as saying that Israel planned no extensive operation whatsoever on the Lebanese border.

PLO

In a commentary on U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's 5 February press conference, the Voice of Palestine rejected Haig's view that the dispatch of weapons to the Palestinian forces in Lebanon contributes to instability and affirmed that neither Haig nor Philip Habib will succeed in restricting the Palestinian revolution's ability to develop its weapons in quality and quantity.

Gulf Affairs

GCC Meeting -- Following the extraordinary meeting in Bahrain of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) foreign ministers, the Ministerial Council issued a statement that declared full support for Bahrain's determination to resist "the acts of sabotage that are carried out by Iran to undermine security and stability, spread chaos and confusion and threaten the interests of citizens." The GCC statement, which was carried by WAKH, also noted Iraq's readiness to find a just solution to its war with Iran and called on the latter to respond to international efforts to find a peaceful solution safeguarding the legitimate rights of the warring parties. The GCC supports Iraq's request for a unified Arab stand on the war at the forthcoming Arab summit conference, the statement added.

WAKH reported that in a press conference after the meeting, Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah said the ministers reached mutual agreement to answer any attack on or intervention in the internal affairs of the Gulf states. However, he said the GCC states do not wish to confront anyone or to intervene in the affairs of others.

Saudi Defense Minister's Interview -- In a lengthy interview with the London magazine AL-HAWADITH, Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that if any outside state threatens the GCC member-states, the latter will stand together "as one state." Asserting that the GCC states want friendship with Iran, Prince Sultan called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war so that Iran and the Arab states can restore good relations. He also called on Arab leaders to "live up to their responsibilities" at the next Arab summit conference. Asked whether Saudi Arabia has decided to become a confrontation state in the Arab-Israeli conflict, Prince Sultan said the entire Arab nation is a confrontation state against Israel. Regarding Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger's visit to the kingdom, Prince Sultan expressed interest in the purchase of more sophisticated U.S. weapons, subject to the armed forces' capacity to absorb new weapons.

Weinberger Visit -- Secretary of Defense Weinberger arrived in Riyadh on 6 February and began talks with Prince Sultan and other Saudi military officials the following day, SPA reported. According to Jerusalem radio, the focal point of Weinberger's talks in Saudi Arabia is the U.S. plan for a new arms deal with Gulf states whereby the latter will manufacture U.S. arms.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi military communique carried by INA stated that an Iranian fighter plane was shot down in the central sector on 6 February. A subsequent communique carried by INA claimed that in a lightning assault on 6-7 February Iraqi forces expelled the Iranians from their main positions in the Bostan sector. According to the communique, the battle was still in progress and going in Iraq's favor. The communique also claimed that the Iraqis carried out raids against enemy positions in the Shush, Ahvaz and Susangerd areas, and said 243 Iranians were killed and much enemy equipment destroyed in the previous 24 hours.

An Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio said the Iraqis launched a series of operations on one of the southern fronts but were foiled and forced to retreat to defensive positions. According to the communique, Iranian artillery forces on the Western fronts fired on enemy positions and "defended their own allocated regions and guarded their own positions." AFP reported that an Iranian military spokesman said the Iraqi claim of having pushed back Iranian forces in the Bostan area was "just propaganda."

At a press conference reported by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister and Popular Army Commander Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the Popular Army, which now numbers 370,000 fully trained and equipped fighters, will increase its strength to 470,000 by the end of the year. According to Ramadan, 60,000 fighters are currently deployed on the battlefront. He added that citizens from several Arab countries, especially Egypt and Syria, are being trained for battle by two sections of the army. Ramadan also said that 10,000 to 12,000 Arab volunteers have carried out their "military duties," expressed the hope that other Arab countries would follow Jordan's example, but admitted that aside from Jordan, no other Arab country has informed Iraq it is opening the door to volunteers.

Iran

Citing Lodnon oil sources, KUNA reported that Iran has cut the price of its oil to $33.55 a barrel, thus undercutting the Arabian light price by 45 cents a barrel.

Sudan

Assembly Meeting -- President Ja'far Numayri summoned the People's Assembly to meet on 22 February Omdurman radio reported.

Libyan Claims -- Citing "sources in close touch with Sudanese affairs," Tripoli radio claimed that at the 17-21 January meetings of Sudanese leaders, all the elements on whom Numayri relied opposed his decisions and actions. According to the same sources, Numayri was told at a meeting with senior army commanders that the army is not prepared to act against the Sudanese people. The radio said Numayri was asked to resign at this meeting because he was sick and incapable of ruling.

Tripoli radio claimed that on 6 February five soldiers and three officers were executed for storming the presidential headquarters in an attempt to assassinate Numayri. The radio said that earlier last week 13 officers and men were executed for rebellion and circulation of leaflets opposing the regime.

Afghanistan

In an authorized announcement, BAKHTAR branded as "entirely incorrect" Western reports alleging that Afghan and Soviet planes bombed Qandahar, that hundreds were killed and most of its citizens left, and that Soviet forces in Afghanistan are resorting to terror against civilians in areas where counterrevolutionaries are active.

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VOP: REAGAN INTERVIEW ATTACKS ARAB FRIENDS

NC081358 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Feb 82

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has said that Israel is a strategic asset and the only reliable ally of the United States in the Middle East. In one of his frankest interviews about his policy in the area published by the German newspaper WELT AM SONNTAG, he added that Israel is not only strong, but is a democratic state that is not subject to the whims of an autocratic ruler, and that since the overthrow of the shah if Iran, it remains the only ally.

Observers consider the last remark as an attack on Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States. Although the White House has tried to cast doubts on the genuineness of this interview by fabricating a story about the way Reagan gives his press interviews, the words and formulations are taken from the U.S. President's political dictionary in his dealing with the area's crisis.

The publication of this interview came at a time when U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger is visiting Riyadh on the first leg of a tour that will also take him to Oman and Jordan. Also at this same time, U.S. President's adviser [not further identified] has reiterated the U.S. Government's refusal to negotiate with the PLO as long as it does not -- as he put it -- recognize Israel's right to exist and as long the organization does not stop its terrorism.

These U.S. positions, which are extremely hostile to the Arabs and extremely supportive of the Zionist entity, crown the recent U.S. position at the UN General Assembly and, earlier, at the UN Security Council when the Reagan administration showed its readiness to wage not only Israel's expansionist battles but also its diplomatic battles.

The important thing in the U.S. President's interview with the German newspaper WELT AM SONNTAG is the offensive remarks against Washington's Arab friends, reminding them that Israel is the only reliable ally. These statements interfere in the internal affairs of the Arab regimes by describing them as autocratic, and by saying that Israel is the only democratic state.

We do not know if Reagan's statements will get any reaction from the Arab states. In any case, there is nothing new in Reagan's remarks. The new thing that will be expected is what the Arabs will say and do to fact the U.S. policy, which addresses the Arabs in a flagrantly hostile manner. This is at a time when the Arabs are still trying to beautify the U.S. positions.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC FOREIGN MINISTERS HOLD EMERGENCY MEETING

Bisharah Explains Meeting

GF051909 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1810 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 5 Feb (WAKH) -- 'Abdallah Bisharah, Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] secretary general, arrived in Manama this evening to attend the emergency session of the GCC Ministerial Council.

It is expected that the meeting will begin here tomorrow and will be attended by the GCC foreign ministers.

The GCC secretary general told the GULF NEWS AGENCY upon arrival that there are three main reasons for this emergency session. He said: What happened at the Fes summit was the first reason to review and study many things [words indistinct] the unlimited Zionist defiance in annexing the Golan Heights in addition to the (?recent events) which took place in Bahrain. It has become necessary for us in the GCC to analyze and review the impact of these elements.

In his statement, Bisharah said: The situation in the region is unusual because there have been unusual developments in this region and the entire Arab region since the second GCC summit.

Bisharah continued: We always emphasize that we in the GCC are one body and what is injurious to one part is injurious to the whole. What happened in Bahrain was not directed against one part of this body but against the whole body. He affirmed that new dynamics have surfaced in the region -- the dynamics of the GCC which are based on the Gulf ability to assimilate science.

Bahraini Minister's Remarks

GF052028 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1835 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 5 Feb (WAKH) -- Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign affairs minister, has welcomed the GCC foreign ministers who will hold an emergency session here tomorrow. He said this session is being held because of the important developments and events that have taken place since the last seesion was held in Riyadh last November.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY today, the Bahraini foreign affairs ministers said: The convocation of this session in Manama reflects the GCC Ministerial Council's interest in the followup and continuous discussion of issues in order to resolve the current problems that concern and affect the GCC.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah expressed the hope that during the session the issues raised by the GCC members will be reviewed and that an understanding will be reached and this conveyed to their majesties and excellencies so that appropriate resolutions can be adopted.

In his statement, the Bahraini foreign affairs minister affirmed that events in the Arab arena -- concerning the Palestinian cause, the Golan, Arab differences or important events in the Gulf region and the accomplishments of the previous Ministerial Council meetings -- have prompted consultations.

He expressed the conviction that this meeting will result in crystalizing ideas for the common good of the region.

The Bahraini minister said. The importance of this session stems from the fact that GCC members acted quickly upon it. This is something new, of which we are proud. GCC countries can move quickly and deal with any issue. This session marks the beginning of such speedy action.

The Bahraini foreign affairs minister also expressed the hope that this session would spark further sessions to tackle issues requiring speedy action, which is an indication of the viability of the GCC. He also said he hopes the countries of the region will achieve their aspirations.

The Bahraini foreign affairs minister referred to the major issues that the GCC Ministerial Council will discuss and said there is no agenda for these issues, but the council will discuss all issues raised during the meeting.

Answering a question on the reasons for the emergency session of the GCC Ministerial Council, he said: There are two main reasons for session: The important developments that have taken place in the Arab arena and events in the Gulf, which have made all of us feel that it is due time to assess and treat what has taken place.

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah stressed the events in Bahrain are not the main reason for the session but that a series of developments in the region have prompted the council to meet.

Ministers Arrive in Bahrain

GF061253 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and acting minister of information, arrived in Bahrain at 1100 today at the head of his country's delegation to the emergency session of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] Ministerial Council which will convene at the Sheraton Hotel at 1600 today. He was received at the airport by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, minister of foreign affairs; 'Abdallah Bisharah, GCC secretary general; Musa Sulayman Musa as-Sayf, ambassador of the state of Kuwait to the state of Bahrain; Muhammad Hasan 'Ali, ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Bahrain; Ibrahim Humud as-Subhi, GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs; and senior foreign ministry officials.

Rashid 'Abdallah 'Ali an-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, also arrived in Bahrain this morning to participate in the emergency session of the GCC Ministerial Council.

Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani arrived at 1130 today, and Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived at 1200 for the emergency session. They were received at the airport by the Bahraini foreign minister, the GCC secretary general, the Omani ambassador to Bahrain, the Kuwaiti ambassador to Bahrain, the GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived at 1215 today leading his country's delegation to the session. He was received at the airport by the Bahraini foreign minister; the GCC secretary general; 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qadi, Saudi ambassador to Bahrain; Ahmad al-Ghamidi, Saudi military liaison officer in Bahrain; the GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs; senior Foreign Ministry officials, and members of the Saudi Embassy.

Opening Address

GF061957 Manama Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Speech by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister and chairman of the extraordinary meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], at the opening session of the extraordinary meeting of the GCC Ministerial Council at the Sheraton Hotel in Manama at 1300 GMT on 6 February 1982 -- recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your highnesses, excellencies, delegation members, ladies and gentlemen of the press and the information media.

Welcome to your country, Bahrain, which takes pride in receiving you today among your kinsmen and harbor love, friendship and fraternity toward you and those you represent.

I have the honor to convey to you the greetings of His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah who wishes you success in your present efforts through which you are writing a page of the history of this important epoch and charting the edifice of cooperation in this dear part of our great Arab homeland.

Today we are witnessing the dawn of an important event in the history of contemporary Arab awakening, an event that is based on serious and constructive work that is free of the negative aspects of the past, that aims to unite the views and rally the ranks and constitutes a significant tributary of the broader Arab action following the emergence of signs of corrosion in the nation's body -- as the result of the intensification of conflict in the parts of the nation, whose rights have become a free-for-all for usurpers and covetous enemies.

Today we are turning a bright new page that will illuminate to us the correct path for building the future of the region and ensuring its protection so as to safeguard its present and future.

The establishment of the GCC through the awareness and determination of their majesties and highnesses was in response to the needs of the present period and in response to the challenges of the Arab nation and also to confront the international changes that have begun to impose themselves. This event in which we are participating is in itself a great achievement equal to the challenge of civilization that we have begun to experience and react to.

Brothers, we are brought together today by a fraternal gathering that is free of complicated official formalities in order to exchange and clarify our views, deepen our common understanding of the pressing issues that have a direct effect on the GCC countries, and strive to turn our hopes into action. The steps that were approved at the first [GCC] summit in Abu Dhabi, the second summit in Riyadh and the ministerial meetings that followed are proof of our sincere determination to carry out what we have resolved to do. At the same time these steps constitute an important progress along the long path that lies before us in our march to achieve our peoples' aspirations and serve our future generations.

History does not wait. Our noble religion calls on us to unite and fraternize and urges us to work together, for God supports a community that is united. Our Arab nationalism is also based on cooperation and unity. In view of all this, we have resolved to proceed, believing that joint action pays dividends, that cooperation has a positive effect and that strength is effective in serving the greater homeland, and achieving its progress and aspirations.

I ask God to grant us success.

Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

Further on Opening Session

GF061829 Manama Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpt] The first meeting of the extraordinary session of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] ended at 1845 today. Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister and chairman of the extraordinary session of the Ministerial Council of the GCC, made a statement to the television correspondent after the first working session in which he said:

[Begin recording] At the first meeting today an agenda was drawn up. Discussion of the topics on the agenda has begun. The meeting will be followed by another meeting this evening and a meeting tomorrow morning. After tomorrow's meeting a statement will be released and a press conference will be held in which all the questions of the press will be covered. [End recording]

Bahraini Amir Meets Delegates

GF061834 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1810 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 6 Feb (WAKH) -- Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah this evening received the foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states who are participating in the extraordinary session of the GCC ministerial council. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Bahraini prime minister; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister; the ministers and a number of senior Bahraini officials.

The foreign ministers of the council's states began their meetings earlier today.

Second Session Held

GF062035 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2008 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Manama, 6 Feb (WAKH) -- The foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council states resumed the proceedings of the extraordinary meeting here this evening with a second closed session to discuss the remaining articles on their agenda.

7 Feb Session

GF070946 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] countries resumed their extraordinary meeting at the Sheraton Hotel at 0930 today. The meeting was attended only by the ministers.

GULF NEWS AGENCY reports that the remaining topics on the agenda will be discussed during today's meeting.

Informed sources said last night that during their two meetings yesterday, the GCC foreign ministers discussed recent developments in the Gulf. The ministers are expected to discuss the present Arab situation and current Arab issues during today's session.

Meeting Ends

GF071140 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1127 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 7 Feb (WAKH) -- The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] foreign ministers ended their meetings in Manama today following a 5-hour closed session that was attended only by the ministers and the GCC secretary general.

A final statement will be released later today during a press conference to be held by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister and conference chairman, and 'Abdallah Bisharah, GCC secretary general.

Statement Issued

GF071603 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Manama, 7 February (WAKH) -- The extraordinary session of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] has declared its full support for the State of Bahrain in safeguarding its safety and security and protecting its sovereignty.

In its closing statement the Ministerial Council delcared its readiness to resist acts of sabotage carried out by Iran to undermine security and stability, create chaos and confusion and threaten the interests of citizens.

Following is the text of the final statement:

The GCC Ministerial Council held its first extraordinary session in the State of Bahrain from 6 to 7 February 1982.

During its meeting the council reviewed the recent events in the State of Bahrain and declared its full support for the State of Bahrain in safeguarding its safety and stability and protecting its sovereignty and its determination to resist the acts of sabotage that are carried out by Iran with the aim of undermining security and stability, spreading chaos and confusion and threatening the interests of citizens -- on the basis of the GCC's fundamental principles which view any aggression against any GCC member as an aggression against all GCC members, and which stress that the region's security and stability is a collective responsibility that falls on all GCC countries.

The council also reviewed the Iraqi-Iranian war and noted Iraq's constant readiness to find a just solution to the war. The council declared its support for all the efforts to end this war by peaceful means and calls on Iran to respond to the efforts of by the Islamic Conference [Organization], the nonaligned countries and the United Nations to find a peaceful solution that safeguards the legitimate rights of the disputing parties. The council supports Iraq's request to discuss this matter at the forthcoming Arab summit so as to adopt a unified Arab stand.

The council reviewed in detail the current Arab situation and the Middle East question in particular. The council affirmed its support for Syria and for the Arab nation's efforts to resist the Zionist expansion represented by the annexation of the Golan Heights and the occupied Arab territories. The council reaffirmed its support for the Palestinians and for a just and comprehensive solution to this problem to safeguard the Palestinian people's legitimate rights in establishing an independent state on their land under the PLO's leadership and their right to self-determination and the return of Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty.

The council also calls for discarding Arab differences and unifying Arab ranks to confront all the challenges facing the Arab nation -- challenges that are represented by the Zionist threat.

The council expressed its sincere thanks and appreciation to Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of the State of Bahrain, for Bahrain's generous hospitality and for the facilities it provided and arrangements it made, which had a good effect on the success of the session's work. The council wishes the Bahraini Government and people security, stability, progress and prosperity under his wise leadership.

Press Conference on Meeting

GF071950 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1508 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 7 Feb (WAKH) -- Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah announced that the extraordinary session of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] Ministerial Council was held after consultation among the members of the ministerial council in order to exchange opinions and consultations and to comprehend some of the events that took place on the Arab and Gulf arenas.

In his press conference held together with GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah said: "The council states do not wish to confront anyone and do not want to intervene in the affairs of others. At the same time they object to intervention in their own affairs by others." He added: "At this moment we seek good relations with all our neighbors; at the same time we are prepared to defend ourselves."

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah said that the GCC states intend to fortify the Gulf home and that work is proceeding in this direction.

He announced that during the meeting a mutual understanding to answer any attack or intervention in the internal affairs of the region's states was achieved. The Bahraini minister added that this meeting achieved its expected goals. He explained that this meeting was not held to deepen disagreements, but to find solutions in the interest of this region, its stability and progress. He stressed that the goal of the GCC's to fortify the Gulf and to develop and reinforce actions.

GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah spoke and said: "The security and stability of the Gulf is the responsibility of the children of the GCC states and the children of the Gulf." He also said: "Whether we discuss a temporary or a permanent issue, our responsibility is to continue the search for security for the member states, to keep dangers away and to affirm the region's independence and territorial integrity."

He added: "Threats will be eliminated through firmness, which we have taken steps to achieve."

Answering a question on the stand of the GCC states toward the presence of foreign forces in the region, the Bahraini foreign ministers said: "The responsibility of defending the region lies with the Gulf states. We are now at the beginning of the road and are coordinating in internal security and defense. We have great hope that this goal will be achieved. We hope our defense forces will complement one another in order to confront foreign ambitions and protect our internatl security." He stressed that the region's states object to any foreign maneuvers in the region.

Answering a question on whether the issue of severing relations with Iran was discussed during the session, the Bahraini foreign minister stressed that the Ministerial Council did not dwell on the issue during this session. However, he said the issues mentioned in the concluding statement were discussed. These included the confrontation of any intervention in the internal affairs of the GCC states and the reinforcement of the Gulf ability to confront an intervention.

The Bahraini minister said: "We here in the GCC treat questions in the manner we choose. We don't wish to comment on statements, official or unofficial, that are made here and there. Our main concern is that views are made clear to us and that our attitudes reflect our interests. I do not believe these statements are true. These statements may even be exaggerated, and it is not the responsibility of the council to comment on what is said. Al we are concerned with is that our stand is clear and also our inclination. We define our stand to the enemy and the friend."

He also denied that the GCC foreign ministers discussed restoring relations with Egypt. He said, "There are Arab issues which interest the Arab group as a whole. We must differentiate between the GCC and the Arab League Council, of which we are a part."

Referring to the GCC's role in Arab issues of destiny, the Bahraini foreign minister said: "Both at present and in the past the Gulf countries played a role in efforts to achieve Arab solidarity and to clear the air. Events have demonstrated the GCC's role in this regard."

He asserted that the GCC's formation will strengthen this stand in view of the Arab world's present state of fragmentation. He said: "The present painful stage places a greater responsibility on the Gulf countries to strive to clear the air and restore the unity of the Arab ranks."

The Bahraini foreign minister expressed the firm belief that Arab strength stems from Arab solidarity. He declared: "There can be no Arab strength and no Arab rights can be restored without Arab solidarity. This is a basic principle set down in the statements issued by the Abu Dhabi and Riyadh summits. It is one of the GCC's sacred principles.

He said the GCC countries participated in the recent special session of the UN General Assembly in the adoption of a resolution condemning Israeli aggression and seeking to isolate Israel internationally. Now that the UN General Assembly has adopted this resolution the Arab League Council will convene in Tunis, the Bahraini foreign minister said.

He indicated that there are some ideas that have been put forward by some Arab countries. He said these ideas will be discussed at the forthcoming [Arab League] meeting. He stressed that decisions on issues of destiny should be made within the Arab League and not outside it.

In his press conference the Bahraini foreign minister stressed the GCC countries' support for all the efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. He said: "We are seeking -- through the efforts of the Islamic Conference [Organization], the nonaligned countries and the United Nations -- to end this war because it is not in the interest of the belligerents nor is it in the interest of the Gulf countries." In this regard, the Bahraini foreign minister praised Iraq's positive response to these efforts.

In the course of his comment on the recent remarks by the U.S. defense secretary on Gulf security, the Bahraini foreign minister reaffirmed that the responsibility of the defense of the region falls only on the area countries. He declared: "The GCC countries have begun real action with regard to security coordination."

Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah expressed the hope that the Fes summit will be resumed in a favorable atmosphere after the Arab air has been cleared. He said: "We are striving to bring about an atmosphere that is favorable for reconvening the summit and achieving positive results."

GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah emphasized at the press conference that the aim of the GCC's is to create a modern Gulf that meets the requirments of modern development, modern security and independence. He said that every meeting of officials of GCC countries in any sphere has one objective: to strengthen the Gulf in the fields of economy, politics, coordination, security and defense. He said the purpose of all action by the GCC countries is not only to safeguard the citizens' freedom but also to fill the gaps through which any trend or party that does not harbor good intentions toward the region can infiltrate.

Foreign Ministers Depart

GF071417 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1358 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Manama, 7 Feb (WAKH) -- Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah, and Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qays az-Zawawi left Manama this afternoon after participating in the extraordinary meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] Ministerial Council which concluded here today.

The ministers were seen off by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah.

Further Departures

GF071703 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign minister and acting information minister, left the country at 1645 today for home after heading the Kuwaiti delegation to the extraordinary meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] Ministerial Council. The Kuwaiti minister was seen off by the foreign minister, the GCC secretary general, the Kuwaiti ambassador to Bahrain and senior officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al-Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, left at 1800 today for Doha after participating in the GCC's extraordinary meeting. He was seen off by the foreign minister, the GCC secretary general and senior officials of the Foreign Ministry.

CONCLUDING REPORTAGE ON MUBARAK'S U.S. VISIT

Mubarak Meets Interest Groups

NC051621 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with a group of U.S. businessmen today after they met with Deputy Prime Minister for Financial and Economic Affairs Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim and Economy Minister Dr Fu'ad Hashim.

Later President Mubarak met with American Jewish leaders in Blair House where President Mubarak is staying during his visit to Washington.

President Mubarak is due to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig before leaving the U.S. capital for London, concluding his 3 day visit to the United States. Haig will see President Mubarak off at the airport.

Mubarak Reviews Haig Meeting

NC052342 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2252 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak this evening received U.S. Secretary of State Gen Alexander Haig at Blair House to review the results of the talks he held with senior U.S. officials during his visit. Attending the meeting were Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton.

President Mubarak will leave Washington early tomorrow morning, Saturday, for London. Gen Haig and a number of senior U.S. officials will see him off.

Press Club Statement

NC051736 Cairo MENA in English 1715 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb (MENA) -- Following is the text of the opening remarks by President Mubarak at the National Press Club.

"I am very pleased to be with you today. I welcome any opportunity to meet with those whose mission is the circulation of information and analysis. Your task compliments ours. We need your understanding and cooperation."

"It is not my intention to deliver a formal speech on this occasion. Rather, I would like to continue with you the dialogue our late leader, President as-Sadat, started for our common benefit."

"It is my policy to talk frankly and speak my mind. I do not like to beat around the bush or sugar-coat my views. I believe in straightforward answers to relevant questions." "At the outset, I want you to know that the overriding principle of Egyptian policy today is continuity and stability. This applies to our foreign policy, as it does to domestic affairs.

We believe in the validity of the basic premises of our policy. Setting priorities and objectives is not the task of a single individual or a small group that forms an elite."

"However, I am certain that you agree with me that policy is a dynamic process not a static one. Everything around us is constantly moving and developing. Thus, our response to events must not be a ridgi one. That is why I am opposed to dogmatic thinking. I believe in a down-to-earth approach that is geared to solving problems. Countries like ours, and in fact all countries, cannot afford dogma and wishful thinking. Even the revolutionary has to start from recognizing existing realities before he struggles to effect a change."

"Therefore, any serious effort exerted to bring about peace between these cousins has to start from the key point. It would be a grave mistake to think that we can evade the complexity of the Palestinian problem by shelving it or postponing its solution. True, we may achieve this solution in stages rather than through a one-step approach. This is the philosophy of the Camp David approach, which remains the most valid mechanism for a comprehensive settlement".

"The starting point of such a phased solution should be mutual acceptance and recognition. When we talk about mutual recognition, we have in mind the recognitions of rights and not institutions or organizations. Each side must recognize the other's right to live in peace and dignity, free from fear and hate. The status quo is in contrast with this objective. It is an invitation to further violence and tension".

"If the Israelis were able to mend their fences with the Egyptians, there is no reason why they should fail to do the same with the Palestinians. They lived together for centuries without a single incident of animosity. To revive this tradition, we have to find a formula that would enable both of them to live together as good friends and neighbors instead of the current tension generated by military occupation".

"We accepted the idea of establishing a system of full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as a transitional furmula and not a final solution. In essence, this formula aims at terminating Israeli occupation and control while preserving the security of both sides. In order to give this formula a chance of being implemented, it must be acceptable to the Palestinians. They are the ones who will elect the self-governing authority. Hence, cooperation and acceptance are crucial".

"Dear Friends, when we say that any declaration of principles of autonomy must be accepted by the Palestinians, we are not introducing a new condition. We are not suggesting that we should seek their prior approval before we agree on a declaration. We are simply saying that all sides should bear in mind throughout the negotiations that their purpose is to attract other Arab parties to the peace process.

"We also believe in the interdependence of nations of todays world. No nation can live in isolation. Whatever happens in a remote corner of the globe directly affects all other corners. Thus, we must learn to live together in peace and harmony. We should seek convergence instead of emphasizing divergence. The challenge ahead of us is to complete (as received) peacefully and not to outmaneuver each other."

"Therefore, we firmly believe that it is an absolute must to maintain world peace. As charity begins at home, we are totally committed to peace in our region. This is a sacred mission that should never be hindered. As President as-Sadat once said, peace in the Middle East belongs to the collective conscience of all its peoples".

"Peace between Israel and the Arabs, including the Palestinians, is the only rational option available to both sides. Other prospects have bleak implications for each and everyone among us. No one can gain from the continuation of violence and tension. Hence, our evaluation of the status quo should be based on how much it serves the cause of peace and not on considerations of expediency".

"The core of the Middle East problem is the Palestinian question. Before it appeared in the forties, there was no dispute between Arabs and Jews. Notions of racial or religious prejudice are alien to our culture. Muslims and Christians of the Middle East never had any problem coexisting with their Jewish neighbors".

"A bad agreement is much worse than no agreement. It complicates the situation further and damages the chances for future reconciliation. It also gives the forces of obstruction and negativism new ammunition to block the road to peace. When we reach agreement on a good formula that is likely to win the approval of moderate Palestinians, and they are many, we will not withhold our consent. But to suggest that we should rush to agreement on any formula for the sake of making progress would be counterproductive and very harmful in the long run".

"The date of reaching agreement is unimportant. The 25th of April has no relevance here of course. The sooner we can agree on a reasonable formula, the better the situation becomes. It is in the interest of all parties to begin the process of conciliation as soon as possible, no one benefits from the continuation of conflict".

"I noticed that some of you are wondering what happens in the area after April 25th. The answer to this question is very clear in my mind. After April 25th, we will continue to build bridges of understanding and friendship with the Israeli people. This policy is irreversible. It is the trend of the future. In fact, the completion of Israeli withdrawal from Sinai will open the door for more interaction between Egyptians and Israelis. It signals the removal of another psychological barrier on the road to full peace. We will continue the autonomy talks if we do not reach agreement then".

"We shall continue to promote a negotiated settlement between Israel and all its Arab neighbors.

This is a commitment we made and will always honor. Our historic role in the area is that of the peacemaker. Egypt is the key to harmony and stability in the region.

The stronger our hand is, the easier it becomes to heal the wound of the past and pave the way for a happy future.

Dear friends:

We are for the elimination of tension and suffering in all four corners of the world. We believe that we should direct our talent and ingenuity toward conflict resolution rather than conflict managemet. Thus, we support the reduction of arms in all regions. We are vigorously advocating the establishment of a nuclear free zone throughout the Middle East. By the same token, we hope that the United States and the Soviet Union will reach agreement on strategic arms limitation. This can lay the foundation for a world of more coexistence and less tension."

"Third World countries have a crucial role to play in this respect. They can perform that role by adhering strictly to the principles and policy of non-alignment. They should strongly resist the pressures of polarization and spheres of influence, foreign intervention must be checked and punished."

"During the last decade, the Non-aligned Movement lost much of its effectiveness and influence due to several factors. Superpower pressure, the need for aid and technology, disputes among member countries and the difficulty of adjusting to the changing international scene crippled the movement to an alarming degree. That is why President as-Sadat launched a vigorous campaign during the summit of non-alignment of 1975, held in Colombo to strengthen the movement and to instill a new spirit in its ranks.

That is also the reason why we are embarking on a new effort to strengthen the movement and enable it to play its role in promoting peace and friendship among nations. Within this context, we have contacted our co-founders of the movement, namely, India and Yugoslavia in order to agree on a common strategy. It goes without saying that the strengthening of that movement does not cause any harm to outside powers.

On the contrary, it helps others to reduce tension and redirect their resources for the good of mankind. Millions of newly born babies die of hunger and disease in every part of the Third World. Millions of school-age children are left without education because of the lack of facilities in many countries.

"Old people are still suffering from insecurity and fear. The gap between the rich and the poor is widening, rather than narrowing. The hoped-for transfer of technology to developing countries has not taken place on the large scale which is required for the success of development efforts."

"Our adherence to non-alignemnt does not preclude strong ties of friendship with the West. In fact, we consider the friendship between our nations one of the main pillars of our policy. During the last 2 days I had constructive talks with President Reagan and his advisers with a view to furthering our cooperation in all fields. I am very satisfied with the outcome of these talks."

"I found President Reagan most understanding and cooperative. He is a man of conviction and commitment. He is for peace and prosperity. He agreed on the necessity for pursuing our vigorous efforts until a comprehensive peace settlement is reached. We discussed the situation in the region and expressed hope that the war between Iraq and Iran will come to an end soon. No one stands to gain from this protracted conflict.

"The United States agreed to introduce more flexibility to its aid to Egypt. To be sure, we do not intend to increase the burden on the American people. Our aim is merely to make the aid program more efficient and responsible to our needs and priority."

"We have started a comprehensive review of our economy. Here again, we are not thinking of a drastic change of policy. Stability is essential to the success of our endeavor. The open door policy will continue and receive more encouragement. We welcome foreign capital and know-how.

The purpose of the new effort is to increase production, control the steady increase of consumption and create new jobs for the new generations of hard-working Egyptians. We know that such sweeping reform will entail certain sacrifices, but we are not willing to give for the good of our country. Each year we have to provide new jobs for four hundred thousand young men and women. The government cannot undertake this task alone. Private enterprise can play a very important role, and we are determined to encourage it.

"We welcome any help our friends can give us to enhance our ability to cope with economic problems. We appreciate the help we have received from the United States, and we intend to maximize its impact on our economy. While maintaining the policy of open doors, we might reset our priorities and we expect the United States to respond to this change with flexibility."

"A massive training program is needed for our working force. Our responsibility in this respect is not limited to Egypt alone. About three million Egyptian workers and professionals are carrying on the mission of reconstruction and prosperity in the Arab world and Africa. Their task is closely linked to development efforts in Egypt. We seek your cooperation in this field. We also urge American private capital to be more forthcoming. There are no risks involved in equitable investment in Egypt, where social and political stability prevail."

"On the other hand, the need to enhance our defense capability continues. Making peace with Israel does not negate our responsibility in that crucial part of the world. A strong Egypt is the best guarantee for stability in the region. It is a shield against aggression and foreign intervention. No other country is more equipped to help sister Arab or African states in time of need.

Dear friends, together we have made a new beginning on the road of peace. Together we will persevere until we reach our goals. We must maintain the unity of our purpose and the clarity of our vision. The future holds a great promise for our nations. God willing, we shall meet the challenge. Thank you."

Mubarak on Press Questions

NC052050 Cairo MENA in English 2030 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb (MENA) -- After making his statement, President Mubarak answered questions.

Question: Do you think that the Reagan administration has been responsive as regards a dialogue between the United States and the Palestinians?

President: We have discussed this matter with the Reagan administration, and we have exchanged views, and we are tied to the Camp David accords, and we are going to follow it to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the whole problem.

Question: What steps the United States should take in order to find a lasting solution for the problem of Palestinian self-determination?

President: I answered this question in one of my speeches yesterday.

The United States should start a dialogue with the Palestinians. The core of the whole problem is the Palestinian problem. We should not deny that. If we want peace to prevail in the whole area, the United States should start a dialogue with the Palestinians. They will ask what kind of Palestinians. There are moderates, there is Fatah, there are no many people. Whenever we reach a good declaration of principles which will be a good thing for encouraging other factions to join the negotiations. We will find those Palestinians who will join the negotiations.

Question: Would you be more specific as to the commitment the United States has made to make its aid more flexible.

President: This is a very long story, but I could tell you very briefly that I am not asking the United States to do with aid exactly as they do with Israel. But I am just telling you to be much more flexible and, frankly, instead of having this aid on projects, we would like it to be sectorial, so in one sector we can move from one project to another so as to do something for the people. And the people in Egypt could feel the real result of the American aid.

Question: Is Israel responding satisfactorily to the question of Palestinian autonomy?

President: We are negotiating with Israel for full autonomy. The United States has been a full partner since we started this peace process. There are differences between Egypt and Israel concerning full autonomy -- differences on some points. I will give you one example; for the autonomy authority we cannot say that the authority will have control only on the people and not on the land. If we Egyptians could accept such principle we would be attacked from every country in the world and you in the United States would attack us and say why do you deny the Palestinian right? That is why there are some differences, but with the continued negotiations I hope we could narrow the gap between Egypt and Israel and this needs help from the United States, which I repeat again is a full partner in the whole talks.

Question: Given the present state of affairs in your part of the world, do you believe that a lasting peace which includes Israel will be achieved in your lifetime? If not, why not?

President: It is a very interesting question. I would like to forget the last part of the question. Peace is peace. We lived 30 years in wars, hatred, bloodshed and other things. Economies deteriorated. We are looking for peace. We like our people to live, and we are going to do our best for peace, a lasting peace and not a temporary peace at all.

Question: Mr President, what role if any do you feel that the Soviet Union should play in the settlement of peace in the Middle East?

President: I don't know if this question is a straightforward question or a question which has side meanings. I know why this question is just given to me now. I was putting it in my speech about the experts which we asked for but I took it out because I was expecting the question. You know we have some installations and we got some equipment several years ago from the Soviet Union and some of the Soviets built factories in our country. When President as-Sadat took the decision for the Soviet Ambassador to leave the country, we sent away all other experts who were working, but they had not finished all the installations. Now after changing the government we found that these factories are not working, not all the factories. The installations needed to be finished. They are under their guarantee, so I decided to ask these people to come to finish these installations. Then when we finish them, I do not think we do not need any more population in our country (laughter), so they are going to leave. The time will range from one to 12 months. That is all the media is making a big fuss about it which I do not think is of great importance.

Question: Mr President, Egypt and Israel are the beneficiaries of the largest foreign aid programmes of the United States. How do you justify having so much assistance go to Egypt, and should not small developing countries be given more and Israel and Egypt less?

President: You just mentioned at the beginning Israel and Egypt. But I would like you to know that Israel takes more aid than Egypt. If you want to take some of our aid and give it to any other country, why don't you ask the Israelis and take more (laughter and applause). Israel is a very rich country. You are providing them with everything. We are a poor country, but we are the biggest country in the area. This we should realise (applause). That is why the United States should help Egypt. I do not mean not to help Israel. I am asking you to help Israel and not telling you at all to neglect Israel, but Egypt should be given much of your help so as to grow more and more because it is the biggest country in the area. We should not deny that.

Question: Is there any commitment or change you wanted from the Reagan administration which they did not make? If so, why do you think they did not?

President: Changing policy, changing aid, changing what I don't know. I never asked the Reagan administration to make any change in the policy. All I asked the Reagan administration was just to give us much more flexibility in the aid, that is all. We spoke about the autonomy talks and the complete withdrawal, and I do not think we have any difficulty with the administration at all.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1640 GMT on 5 February adds the following:

[Question: What forms of alliances and military agreements have you discussed with President Reagan?

[President: In fact, we did not discuss military assistance, because this subject was discussed before and there are no problems in this respect. We have several times discussed the date of delivery to expedite things only, but not because we are preparing ourselves for any war, absolutely not. It is for one reason, that is, that our armed forces are suffering from a lack of equipment because the condition of the Soviet equipment has deteriorated through use. Therefore, we have asked for a speedy delivery for this reason in particular, so as to make our armed forces feel satisfied that the United States is delivering on schedule.

[Question: Does your recent decision to purchase Mirage 2000 fighter bomber aircraft mean that you do not desire to rely upon the United States as a principal source of arms, and if not, what could be concluded from the deal?

[President: I was going to answer this question in my speech, but I omitted it because I expected this question. You know that we have purchased Mirage aircraft from France since 1974. We had the Mirage-5. Spare parts for Soviet planes were not available. We had many pilots, but no planes. Therefore, President as-Sadat decided to purchase some Mirages. At the time, we had no commitment from the United States for the purchase of any F-16 aircraft. You know the morale of the people. The people found that the Israelis have F-16 planes and we have none at all, and we have been suffering from the shortage of planes. Therefore, we decided to raise the morale and to purchase at least some Mirage planes. The negotiations over the Mirage planes started 2 years ago. This is not a new thing. It was ratified only yesterday. It is not a new concept or a new policy. It is not new. As to obtaining your F-16 in March, I believe we have no problems. However, if I thought of cancelling the Mirage deal, this would make the French believe that there is U.S. pressure on Egypt. This is something that does not exist, and I believe you agree with me.

[Question: Have you asked for a second meeting with President Reagan, or have they volunteered one, and how important is the meeting?

[President: You ask about everything. Would it be a strange thing if I asked to meet with him for a second time now? We met yesterday and reviewed our previous discussions. I faced the journalists and made some statements. That was all. I am afraid to ask to meet with him again because you will make a big commotion out of it. (laughter)

[Question: We heard a great deal about the liberation of the Egyptian woman under the era of Mrs as-Sadat. Do you and your wife intend to continue to consolidate the liberation of the Egyptian woman?

[President: I believe you yourself understand my views. I praised you before I delivered my speech. Every man has his own system in life. This is all the matter. (laughter, applause)

[Question: Mr President, are you interested in restoring relations with Moscow? What is your comment on your government's decision allowing 66 Soviet industrial experts to provide assistance to Egyptian factories?

[President: I think I have already answered this question. I have visited Moscow several times and when I was appointed to the air force, I was accused of being a communist. I am an Egyptian and not a communist or anything else. You are an American and will not be a Soviet or anything else. I am an Egyptian seeking the interest of my country, and I deal and cooperate with good friends on an equal footing. There is nothing new regarding the Soviets.

[Question: What are your policies and plans vis-a-vis leader Al-Qadhdhafi and Libya?

[President: It is difficult to answer such a question. Since I was elected President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, I have stated that I will not make any statements against any Arab or friendly country, or any other country. Therefore, I apologize for not expressing any ideas on this question. He is your friend and bought Boeing and C-130 aircraft from you. You must ask yourselves this question and not me. (Laughter and applause)

[Question: I believe that had Your Excellency not decided to assume office as President of the Republic of Egypt, you would have been a good humorist.

[President: Had this happened, I would have made a fortune.

[Question: What is your role in ending the Iraqi-Iranian war? Did King Husayn consult with you before announcing his entry into the war?

[Answer: Gentlemen, when I said in my statement that I had some ideas about the war between Iraq and Iran, I mean that I have hope in the possibility of ending this war of attrition. My view is, frankly, that I would like to see such a war end without either side being victorious or defeated. Regarding whether or not King Husayn contacted me, we have no diplomatic relations with King Husayn or the other Arabs. As for me, I cannot say more on this subject.

[Question: Would you give assistance to Iraq if Iran started to penetrate into the Iraqi territory?

[President: Iraw has no diplomatic relations with Egypt. As you know, the diplomatic relations between Egypt and Iraq, Iran and other states have been broken off. Sending armed forces to any state without any reason is out of the question, and we are not prepared to do that. We cannot send our armed forces any place before we exchange views over such an action and give our commitment. If we give our commitment, we are prepared to fulfill it. However, we call on all peoples and all states in the area to solve their problems peacefully. We have a good experience in war. What would war offer the people, the economy and the poor people. It is a dreadful thing. I advise those people to put an end to this war and to care about their people at home. Naturally, we help Iraq, not Iran. We offer ammunition and arms, but not forces.

[Question: You said that foreign interference must be penalized. What do you mean by that?

[President: We know well what the foreign interference is. It requires no clarification from me. Is the United States going to fight Egypt? Do any of the pro-American states think of fighting Egypt? You know what foreign intervention is. I do not want to describe this more clearly at such a big press conference.

[Question: Concerning the intensive training of the labor force for economic development, to what extent would you seek Israeli expertise and know-how in this field?

[President: We regard Israel like any other state of the world with whom we have diplomatic relations. We have diplomatic relations with more than 120 countries in all parts of the world. We can cooperate with Israel, Italy, France, Sweden, Denmark and any other state. Israel is like any other state. If there is something useful in Israel for our benefit or for our cooperation, we will not hesitate.

[Question: Mr President, before asking the last question, I would like to present you with a certificate of appreciation from the National Press Club and with the National Press Club tie.

[President: Thank you.

[Question: Our last question is, how do you like the china set in the National Press Club?

[President: I could see it in front of me.

[Question: Thank you very much.]

'Ali Views Mubarak Talks

NC052157 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that President Husni Mubarak's talks in the United States dealt with political, economic and military topics. In a statement to [Egyptian] Arab television, 'Ali said that the political topics dealt with the international situation, the area's security and autonomy for the Palestinians. He pointed out that there is full agreement that the Camp David accords are the basis for solving the Palestinian problem and for establishing a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis.

'Ali said that there is also agreement on the need to continue these negotiations without specifying a deadline, because there are differences in views that require further efforts. Therefore, Fairbanks, Assistant Secretary of State and Haig's aide, has been appointed to continue the talks and to shuttle among Washington, Cairo and Tel Aviv as the secretary of state's ambassador.

'Ali said that the United States will increase the volume of its military aid to Egypt by $400 million annually. Thus, the annual U.S. military aid for this year will total $1.3 billion. As for the economic aid, the U.S. administration has responded to Egypt's economic demands, particularly with regard to flexibility in using the loans.

'Ali stressed that President Mubarak's (?personality), which is characterized by frankness and clarity, has played a basic role in bringing about the U.S. response to Egypt's demands. This response is considered to be an affirmation of Egypt's pioneering role in the area and in the movement for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

On the possibility of convening a tripartite summit among Presidents Mubarak and Ronald Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, 'Ali said that it is too early because participation in the talks by Haig and then the appointment of Fairbanks is considered to be a preparation for solving the problem.

Concluding his statement, 'Ali said that should it be necessary to convene a summit, it would be inevitable to prepare well for it by holding a ministerial conference or conferences so that the summit would lead to its desired goals.

Mubarak Adviser Notes Progress

JN052008 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 5 Feb 82

[From the "It Happened Tomorrow" program]

[Text] From London, where President Husni Mubarak will arrive tomorrow, we return to Washington and to the clamor which accompanied the Egyptian President's statements on Camp David and the Palestinian people's self-determination. What has really happened? That is what our Washington correspondent Huda Tawfiq will try to discover from the long dialogue she is now holding with Usamah al-Baz, director of the Egyptian President's Office of Political Affairs and one of President Mubarak's close senior aides.

[Begin recording] [Question] President Husni Mubarak's visit to the U.S. capital and the summit talks as well as the president's character and policy were the focus of the U.S. administration's attention and the subject of the questions raised by the U.S. press, which examined all his statements and every word he said under a microscope. The press clamor burst out when President Mubarak called for [Palestinian] self-determination and a Palestinian entity without mentioning Camp David when he arrived at the White House. However, he mentioned Camp David in the final statement without repeating self-determination. Some said that President Mubarak came with a hardline stand and that his stand might have changed during his talks with Reagan. What is the truth Dr Usamah al-Baz?

[Answer] The truth is that there has been no change and there can be no change at all in Egypt's stand. Some pointed out a change because they interpreted one word to mean something and another to mean something else. This is not correct because a man should not have to repeat himself two or three times on the same day. One should concentrate on one point at one time and concentrate on another point at another time and so forth. Our frank and clear stand, whether in the closed talks or public ones, shows that we completely believe in and fully adhere to the Palestinian people's right to determine their future and establish their entity and state on their soil. This is a principled stand which has not changed and will not change.

[Question] Was this stand only expressed in statements or was it raised by President Husni Mubarak in his talks with Reagan?

[Answer] This subject was raised in the talks with Reagan and Haig, as well as with the Senate and House foreign relations committees.

[Question] How receptive was the U.S. administration to Egypt's call for a Palestinian dialogue with the United States?

[Answer] It is true that the U.S. administration has not made a definite promise in this regard, but we have noticed that the degree of the U.S. administration's acceptance of this talk was greater than before. This is perhaps due to the fact that we have decided to talk on this subject or perhaps due to some positive signs regarding an interest in dialogue with the Palestinians. There is an interest in this. Come, ask, as has happened in congressional circles, which Palestinian can [words indistinct] in this regard, how can a dialogue be started, are there conditions for such a dialogue and so forth?

[Question] Can we say that by the end of this year the United States will have actually started a dialogue with the Palestinians?

[Answer] We hope so. We cannot be absolutely certain of this because this subject needs a continuous contact with the U.S. administration to urge it to do so. It may also require some cooperation from the concerned Palestinian sides.

[Question] Is the United States ready to begin dialogue and with which Palestinians?

[Answer] As I have said, the United States on the level of the administration has not made any commitment in this regard. We have just noticed that they are more receptive to our talk. When the idea was submitted 2 years ago, they were completely unreceptive to it, saying that they could not hold a dialogue except under conditions and so forth. They even believed that acceptance of their conditions could only lead to a dialogue and not to any real improvement of the Palestinians' stand. Now, we note that they show more interest. It seems that the subject is in their minds at present.

[Question] After Haig and the U.S. administration have realized the large differences hampering the autonomy negotiations, what is your concept of the next move?

[Answer] My concept is that intensified efforts should continue to be exerted in order to narrow the gap between each side's stand. We have often stated that we cannot make any concessions regarding the Palestinian cause because this is a matter which concerns only the Palestinian people. Neither Egypt nor any other state can make concessions in this regard. Any progress requires an Israeli move toward Egypt's stand.

[Question] The matter then requires a political decision by Menahem Begin's government.

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] How can such a political decision be adopted? Does the United States intend to exert efforts in this respect?

[Answer] The United States does not usually say that it will exert efforts or pressure on a certain side. They say that they will exert their utmost efforts to bring the stands of the various sides closer and to narrow the differences. They always show optimism. However, they have been expressing optimism for 2 years. There is no guarantee in this regard, They have no frankly promised to exert pressure on Israel, but say that an agreement can be reached on this matter because they believe it is in the interest of stability in the region to begin the process of autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza so that the situation will not be deadlocked.

[Question] Have the summit talks added to the U.S. understanding of the Palestinian cause?

[Answer] The talks have made it clear that the key to a solution in the region is the Palestinian cause and not any other strategic considerations. The talks helped to increase the understanding of the U.S. administration that it must get closer to recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. It is true that at the present time we are not in a stage of coordination regarding the self-determination issue. The time to consider this issue is when we discuss the final agreement. However, they [U.S. administration] are now convinced that this issue is important and that all parties concerned must consider this issue in one way or another.

[Question] What was President Husni Mubabak's message to President Reagan's administration?

[Answer] That the Palestinian cause is the center of the Middle East problem and that any stability or progress in the region is conditional upon a serious and sincere process to settle this problem in a way that is certainly accepted by the Palestinian people. The Palestinian acceptance of the settlement was the most important point in Egypt's message.

[Question] Can we say that the U.S. side responded favorably?

[Answer] Yes. It is possible to say that the U.S. stand has improved a little. This does not mean that they have adopted our point of view. Yet, there is surely some improvement in this regard. We hope that this improvement will continue in the future.

[Question] What is their concept of the effort to activate the situation?

[Answer] They believe that the new U.S. representative, Ambassador Sullivan, may be able to visit the region sometime in the next few weeks to continue the dialogue with the two sides to bring about different formulas for solving the current differences. They do not think that they will be able to achieve an agreement soon, yet they believe that some progress may be achieved on some points, at least.

[Question] Dr Usama, Your Excellency followed the various discussions and talks. Was there any talk about allowing the Palestinians to participate in the peace process?

[Answer] There was no talk about allowing the Palestinians to participate in the peace process at the present time because they cannot participate from a vacuum. However, if an agreement on declaration of principles is reached, and if an autonomous Palestinian government in the West Bank and Gaza is elected, then this question will be relevant and natural. Actually, this question will then be raised persistently.

[Question] Is there any consideration of bringing in other Arab States?

[Answer] Yes. We are considering Jordan's participation. It will even become necessary in the future to win Syria's participation in the peace efforts so we can achieve a comprehensive settlement. However, the Palestinian cause reamins the key to the settlement in the present stage.

[Question] Is the United States moving in the direction of Syria and Lebanon's cause?

[Answer] We have drawn the attention of the U.S. administration and Israel to the seriousness of any Israeli action in Lebanon no matter what the excuses are. The excuses of "We were provoked" and "We had to do something" are not accepted. Israel must practice self-restraint and must not carry out any operation in southern Lebanon?

[Question] What is the concept of the situation after 25 April regarding the Palestinian cause and the Arab reconciliation?

[Answer] There will be no critical change in the situation because Egypt has declared that it will continue to honor its commitments and obligations of the peace agreement. We will also continue the autonomy talks. We hope, however, that our Arab brethren will realize that the peace process with Israel is not directed against them and that this process has produced fruitful results for the Egyptian people and the entire Arab nation. Restoring Sinai and liberating it from the Israeli occupation serves the interests of the entire Arab nation, not only those of Egypt. So, by keeping in mind that the liberation of Sinai is a great achievement, it will be possible to improve the situation.

[Question] We have heard of some U.S. doubts and apprehension over Egypt's stand which calls for nonalignment and for having good relations with the others.

[Answer] This was reflected in the U.S. media and in certain circles but we did not feel anything on the official level. Some of these circles may have been influenced by local or foreign sides. There is exaggerated irritation and misinterpretation. First of all, regarding the issue of nonalighment, Egypt is a founding state of the Nonaligned Movement and has never abandoned its role. It is not correct, then, to consider this as a new Egyptian stand. We will continue, as a member of the Nonaligned Movement, to call for nonalignment and to support this movement. U.S. irritations, and apprehensions do not determine Egyptian policy; what Egypt sees as best for its national and patriotic interests does.

[Question] Is there any talk about a strategic cooperation?

[Answer] Between whom?

[Question] Egypt and the United States?

[Answer] No. There is no such talk.

[Question] Are there different visions regarding the establishment of security and stability in the region?

[Answer] Our vision is that the establishment of security, stability and peace in the region is conditional upon the settlement of the Palestinian cause. If this cause is settled, then the other issues will become very minor issues. The Arab states will be able to defend the region against any foreign aggression, sabotage or foreign interference if they strengthen their defensive abilities.

[Question] We heard that you asked [the U.S. administration] for military aid to the Arab states?

[Answer] We did not ask that on behalf of any Arab state. We told the U.S. administration that it is its duty to help the Arab states that need military or economic aid, particularly Sudan and Somalia.

[Question] Has President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States achieved its aim?

[Answer] Yes. Yet it remains logical not to exaggerate the aim of this visit. The aim was limited right from the beginning. We believe that positive results were achieved regarding the correction of U.S. understanding of certain issues related to the Palestinian cause and bilateral relations.

[Question] Any possibility of holding a tripartite summit conference?

[Answer] No. This issue was not raised. [End Recording]

Press Praises Mubarak Tour

NC062322 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2222 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 6 Feb (MENA) -- The Cairo papers to be published tomorrow are unanimous in their commentaries on affirming the success of President Husni Mubarak's tour to the Western states in outlining Egypt's stand and its adherence to peace and in affirming that solving the Palestine question is a basic factor in the stability of the entire Middle East.

The papers also stress that Mubarak's talks in the countries he has visited have resulted in complete agreement on viewpoints with these states on the need for achieving and completing the peace process based on justice in the Middle East.

AL-AKHBAR says that Mubarak's tour is regarded as a new phase in the history of the Middle East and a turning point in the world's policy.

It adds that if the success which the peace tour has achieved is an agreement on viewpoints and determination by all parties to achieve peace based on justice in the Middle East. What remains then is action turning the agreements into facts.

AL-AKHBAR expresses the belief that this tour will have great results, effects and dimensions in various fields.

AL-AHRAM says that President Mubarak's talks in Washington have resulted in a U.S. commitment on two aspects: The first commitment is with Egypt for a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The other commitment is with Egypt also for achieving progress in the autonomy talks. Hoping for an agreement on the declaration of principles for solving all aspects of the Palestine problem as stipulated in the Camp David agreements.

The paper says that the declaration of principles needed for autonomy in accordance with the Camp David agreement is the exemplary course for solving all aspects of the problem in a way contributing toward a peaceful solution of the conflict in the area.

AL-AHRAM affirms that the required progress for the declaration of principles provides for a similar degree of U.S. commitment with Israel in the same direction and for the same goal in light of the decisions contained in the accords.

The paper adds that this means that the United States should intensify its direct presence on the side that [word indistinct] Israel to the issue and to the talks so that it will be tangible on the one hand and logical and flexible on the other. It is no longer reasonable or acceptable that this presence appears perplexed vis-a-vis the Israeli breaching or arrogant behavior which [words indistinct] even the minimum requirements for a comprehensive peace such as its countermeasures in the West Bank and Gaza and the annexation of the Golan.

Papers Analyze Trip Results

NC072300 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Cairo, 7 Feb (MENA) -- In their commentaries in tomorrow, Monday's, editions, the Cairo papers continue to analyze president Husni Mubarak's tour of six Western capitals -- the tour which entered the final phase with the president's current visit to Bonn.

AL-AHRAM and AL-AKHBAR are interested in President Mubarak's concentration, during his discussions with various officials in the Western capitals, on the Palestinian issue. In this context, AL-AHRAM refers to the agreement in viewpoints of President Mubarak and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the importance of mutual acceptance and recognition between Israel and the Palestinians as a starting point for the peace process.

In this context, AL-AKHBAR affirms that in all his discussions, President Mubarak succeeded in maki[illegible]peace an international question and that he concentrated in his discussions on the need for resolving the Palestinian issue on the basis that a start in resolving it is the primary basis for stability and peace.

AL-AKHBAR states that President Husni Mubarak's tour scored a huge success in achieving economic and military cooperation between Egypt and the Western nations and that the generous cooperation which the Western states expressed readiness to extend is an indication of their confidence in Egypt's economic position and in the strength of its resources and potentials.

Commenting on the same topic, AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that during his trip President Mubarak emphasized on more than one occasion and in no uncertain terms that Egyptian policy is characterized by stability, and regardless of how circumstances change, the Egyptian government will not abandon its peace policy because peace is not an optional process as far as the Egyptian people are concerned, but is an important principle linked with the people's interests in reconstruction and prosperity.

The paper referred to President Mubarak's affirmations that the Egyptian Government will continue its productive open-door policy. The paper indicated that by this, President Mubarak has replied to the anxiety expressed by Western information media regarding the possibility of changes in the bases of the Egyptian internal and external policies.

Radio Commentary On Tour

NC051426 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Ahmad al-Qasir Commentary: "Mubarak's Visit to Washington Affirms Egypt's Firm Policy for a Just Peace"]

[Text] One established fact, well known by the whole world, is that any attempt to achieve a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East can in no way ignore the core of the problem -- the Palestine question. The whole world is also convinced that any move to solve the Palestine problem cannot materialize without the participation of the parties concerned, as otherwise this process becomes futile and an evasion of the historical and legal facts, and will not lead to any result or to serving security and stability in the area.

From this principle stemmed President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's call to the United States for the need to begin a dialogue with the Palestinians as a serious step along the road for a serious and sincere action for finding a solution to the Palestinian problem, thus paving the way for mutual recognition between the Palestinians and the Israelis. It will also encourage other Arab parties to participate in the peace process which Egypt has inititated in Camp David and which aims at achieving a comprehensive settlement that will guarantee the legitimate rights of all the peoples in the area.

Therefore, it was not strange vis-a-vis Egypt's clear and firm stand for President Reagan to reaffirm, after meeting with President Mubarak yesterday, that his country is committed to go ahead with the autonomy talks to arrive at a declaration of principles. Reagan also said that this action is regarded as the best means for achieving progress toward solving all aspects of the Palestinian problem in accordance with the Camp David accords.

Consequently, this affirms the political results achieved by President Mubarak's current visit to Washington by obtaining a new U.S. commitment to work as a full partner in the peace process and by obtaining Washington's full support of the Egyptian viewpoint for the need to work for reaching a declaration of principles in relation to the autonomy question, acceptable to the parties concerned without restricting this to a specific deadline now that the autonomy talks have reached a deadlock.

In addition to achieving economic and military results by this visit, we say that President Mubarak -- in going to Washington this time as president of Egypt, which enjoys regional and international weight -- went to confirm Egypt's peaceful policy, its concern about the just peace process and its desire to achieve security and stability in the area, and not for any other motive.

Washington must be fully aware of the regional changes that took place in the area recently and must show practical evidence by seriously moving to support the peace process. It must deal with all the peoples in the area out of the same concept, namely the concept of justice.

Likewise, we hope that President Mubarak's visit to Washington will be the start of a new era in consolidating the existing cooperation between Egypt and the United States in all political, economic and military fields.

AL-AKHBAR EDITORIAL ON EGYPTIAN-USSR RELATIONS

NC060850 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 6 Feb 82

[From The Press Review]

[Text] Commenting on the return of a small number of Soviet experts to Egypt, AL-AKHBAR editorially says: We believe there is no use in severing relations with any friendly or unfriendly state. States disagree and lie in wait for each other. Despite this, they continue to maintain and exchange diplomatic and economic relations while each state insists on its stand and on gaining its rights. For this reason, we welcome reconsidering our relations with all states with whom we have differences or disputes. We should work to remove these differences and restore relations to normal, even with states that have inflicted material and moral losses on us, either deliberately or out of hatred. It is evident that we can preserve our rights with a state which disagrees with us without severing relations with it, something which we cannot do if we break or freeze these relations.

Our relations with the West became tense when we adhered to our sovereignty and rights. We were forced to extend our hands to the East. The Soviet Union welcomed this offer and, with astonishing speed, Egypt became completely dependent on the Soviet Union, especially in arming its armed forces. The Soviet Union became Egypt's only source of arms supplies to the extent which the Soviet Union wanted, and not to the extent which these forces needed. Our dependence on the Soviet Union was not confined solely to arms, but extended to cover the entire Egyptian economy until we became dependent on the Soviet Union militarily, economically, politically and ideologically. Those were days which we do not forget and should not forget.

The Soviet Union was our ally, but it refused to allow us to befriend its enemies, or to cooperate with those who threatened and denounced it. What it did to 'Abd an-Nasir, it did more so to As-Sadat. History books are rich with the details of that sad period, which many times made our late leaders burst out in anger and indignation. This prompted As-Sadat to liberate Egypt from the grip of the iron fist and to restore relations with all countries and to deal with them on an equal footing.

Today we welcome a new form of cooperation with the Soviet Union, different from the old, conventional form. We want normal relations, such as those that exist among all states, including the belligerent states and the states which lie in wait for each other.

It is not required that the Egyptian and Soviet peoples should embrace; it is not expected that the two countries should become allies. What is required and expected is that the ice separating them will be thawed and the two countries will cooperate, as all other states cooperate.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak said the whole truth to the U.S. politicians and journalists who asked him about the sensational report [on the return of USSR experts] that aroused the astonishment and curiosity of many people, more than any other more important and serious report has aroused. In a few words President Mubarak gave the report its true dimension, and restored the uproar it raised to its normal size.

MUBARAK TALKS WITH UK'S PRIME MINISTER THATCHER

For MENA and Cairo Domestic Service reportage on President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United Kingdom, including Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary al-Baz's comments, a statement by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Ali and Mubarak's press conference, see the United Kingdom section of the 8 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

No 606

JN051616 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Feb (INA) -- An Iraqi military communique issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command has put the enemy's losses during the past 24 hours at 69 killed and 2 tanks, 2 vehicles and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed. It added that the Iraqi combat patrols launched bold and successful raids against the enemy positions and concentrations in the Shush area in the southern sector of the battlefield. It said that the military operations took place in the Shush, Gilan-e Gharb Mimak and Abadan areas. It put the Iraqi losses at three martyrs in all sectors. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 606 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Iraq's capable armed forces continue to strike the forces of the racist Persian aggressors in the operational sectors. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our combat patrols launched bold and successful raids against the enemy positions and concentrations in the Shush area and clashed with the enemy, killing 34 and destroying 2 tanks.
B. Our forward units sighted an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb area, pounded it with various weapons and forced it to flee, leaving behind 25 dead and 2 destroyed vehicles.
C. Seven killed in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
D. Three killed and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Abadan area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amounted to 69 killed and 2 tanks, 2 vehicles and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.

II. Our losses: Three martyrs in all sectors.

No 607

JN061649 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Feb (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces today shot down an Iranian fighter plane in the central sector of the operations theater. The plane was seen exploding in the air, this was reported by military Communique No 607 issued this evening by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. It said that Iraqi fighter planes today carried out daring and successful raids on the Iranian enemy's positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the operations theater, scoring direct and effective hits, before returning safely to base. Tongues of fire were seen rising from the enemy's targets. The communique added that Iraqi forces inflicted losses on the Iranian troops during the past 24 hours, those known amounting to 28 killed and 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 vehicle, 4 excavators, 4 observation posts and 4 stockpiles of hardware destroyed. One enemy fighter plane was also downed.

The communique put Iraqi losses for the same period at three martyrs in all sectors and two vehicles damaged.

Following is the text of Communique No 607 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With superiority and success, our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today, with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Eight were killed and four excavators and two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Abadan area.
B. Six were killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
C. Four were killed and one observation post destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
D. Three were killed and one observation post and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
E. Three were killed and one observation post destroyed in the Dezful area.
F. Three were killed in the Sumar area.
G. One was killed and one armored personnel carrier, one vehicle, one observation post and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Shush area.
H. An enemy fighter plane was shot down today in the central sector of the operations theater. The plane could be seen with the naked eye, exploding in the air and going down ablaze.
I. Our hero eagles all day today carried out daring and successful raids on enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base. Explosions were heard and fires seen by our ground units.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 28 killed, 1 fighter plane downed and 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 vehicle, 4 excavators, 4 observation posts and 4 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Three martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles damaged.

No 608

JN071714 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Feb (INA) -- Iraqi Communique No 608 has stated that during a lightning assault last night Iraqi forces managed to expel the Iranian enemy forces from their main positions in the Bostan sector, inflicting massive losses in life and equipment on them and capturing large numbers of the defeated enemy troops. The communique said that the battle was still going on at the time of this communique. It added that last night Iraqi military units launched three bold raids against the enemy positions and concentrations in the Shush area. It said that our forces clashed with the enemy forces in a fierce battle, after which the enemy was forced to leave its positions in terror, sustaining massive losses in equipment and lives.

The Iraqi military communique added that our aircraft today attacked enemy military targets and positions in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits and inflicting massive losses on enemy troops, vehicles and equipment before returning safely to base. The communique put known enemy losses during the past 24 hours at more than 243 killed, 4 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 10 vehicles -- 2 loaded with troops -- 1 excavator, 5 observation posts and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed, large numbers wounded, large quantities of various kinds of equipment seized and several enemy troops captured. It put our losses at 10 martyrs in all sectors and 2 mortars damaged. Following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

If God helps you, none can overcome you. [Koranic verse]

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our valiant army units launched lightning assaults last night and all day long today against the enemy units in the Bostan sector. Our armed forces managed to destroy the enemy force in this area and to expel if from its main positions, inflicting on it massive losses in life and equipment and capturing large numbers of its defeated troops. The battle was still going on in our favor at the time this communique was prepared. A splendid victory will be our lot, God willing.

B. Last night our units launched three bold raids against the enemy positions and concentrations in the Shush area and clashed with the enemy forces with all weapons in a fierce battle, during which the enemy was forced to leave its positions in terror, sustaining massive losses in equipment and lives. Known enemy losses amounted to 65 killed, several troops wounded, 2 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 1 vehicle and 1 excavator destroyed and large quantities of various kinds of hardware and equipment seized. The enemy also sustained six killed and two observation posts destroyed in the same area.

C. Yesterday one of our units raided enemy positions and concentrations in the Ahvaz area and clashed with enemy forces in a fierce battle, during which the enemy sustained 60 killed, large numbers of troops wounded and several medium machineguns and various equipment destroyed.

D. Our units raided enemy positions and troops in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area and clashed with the enemy in its positions, creating a state of disorder among the enemy troops and inflicting massive losses in equipment and lives on them. Known enemy losses were more than 40 killed and 2 tanks and 1 vehicle destroyed.

E. Our forward units carried out three bold raids against the enemy troops in the latter's positions in the Dezful area and clashed with them with all weapons, killing more than 40, wounding others, destroying 1 vehicle and capturing large quantities of various kinds of equipment left behind by the enemy after fleeing the battlefield in terror. The enemy also sustained one killed and one vehicle loaded with troops and one observation post destroyed in the same area.

F. Eighteen were killed and 6 vehicles -- 1 carrying troops -- 2 observation posts and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Abadan area.

G. Nine were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.

H. Four were killed in the Sumar area.

I. Our aircraft today attacked enemy military targets and positions in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits and inflicting massive losses on enemy troops, vehicles and equipment. Our aircraft returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to more than 243 killed, 4 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 10 vehicles -- 2 of which were loaded with troops -- 1 excavator, 5 observation posts and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed, large numbers of troops wounded, large quantities of various kinds of equipment seized and numbers of troops captured.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 10 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: Two mortars damaged.

CORRESPONDENTS REPORT ON BOSTAN SECTOR 8 FEB

JN080937 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Feb (INA) -- ATH-THAWARAH correspondents in the Bostan sector have reported that the victorious Iraqi forces continue to capture enemy positions one after the other. They said that fierce battles are raging between the Iraqi and Iranian forces behind the sand barrier which was erected by the enemy troops. This barrier was destroyed right from the first hours of the lightning attack launched by the Iraqi forces the night before last. They added that various types of weapons are being used in the battles, including light weapons with the support of fighter planes and helicopters.

The correspondents said that the strength of the blow dealt to the Iranian forces has confused and spread chaos among the ranks of the enemy forces which are retreating.

The ATH-THAWRAH team reported that it is following up the battle from over the sand barrier and that fires and columns of smoke are rising from every enemy position. The team affirmed that violent explosions are being heard from these positions.

The team conveyed a picture of the heroism demonstrated by the Iraqi fighters and of the wounded who refused to be removed to the rear positions.

RAMADAN SPEAKS ON POPULAR ARMY, VOLUNTEERS

JN061434 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Taha Yasin Ramadan, commander of the Popular Army, held a press conference at the Popular Army General Command yesterday evening on the 12th anniversary of the Popular Army. Taha Yasin Ramadan spoke about the Popular Army's role in the battle of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah and other domestic and Arab issues. The press conference was attended by the Popular Army's chief of staff, and local, Arab and world newsmen and news agency correspondents.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the Popular Army, which numbers more than 370,000 fully trained and equipped fighters, will include more than 470,000 fighters at the end of this year.

He explained that more than 60,000 fighters are now deployed at the battlefront, carrying out their combat tasks with high morale, capability and responsibility, and that the fighters at the front are rotated.

On the Arab volunteers who are participating in the battle of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, Taha Yasin Ramadan said that there are two Popular Army sectors which contain citizens from several Arab countries, particularly Egypt and Syria, and that they are being trained to prepare them for the honor of participating in the battle. He added that some 10,000 to 12,000 Arab volunteers have carried out their militant duties, such a number of volunteers being the real expression of the nation's conscience.

He expressed hope that other Arab countries would follow Jordan's example and that Arab leaders would not prevent Arab citizens from volunteering after it has become necessary that the Arab countries' stand on our 17-month-old just battle be clearly defined. He expressed the hope that such a thing would take place in the next stage and that Jordan's initiative would be expanded because it is a service to the Arab nation's unity and shortens the war. He pointed out that Iraq had not yet been informed that Morocco or other Arab countries had opened the door to volunteers.

The Popular Army commander explained that there is nothing new on the issue of the exchange of visits by families of Iraqi and Iranian POW's. The progress so far attained with regard to this issue has been made public. Also, there is nothing new on the mediation to stop the war between Iraq and Iran, however, this mediation is still going on and our stand on halting the war is clear, to guarantee our legitimate rights in land and waters.

On Iraq's treatment of Iranian POW's Taha Yasin Ramadan said that Iraq respects all laws, instructions and formulas that govern the protection of the POW's. He added that the way Iran is treating Iraqi POW's is painful, commensurate with the nature of a regime that does not respect its people.

On the Gulf states' aid to Iraq, Ramadan said that figures are not that important, all the Arabs must shoulder their responsibility. We believe that it behooves the Arabs to adopt a stand in support of Iraq more than at any time before. He expressed great confidence that the Arab nation would have a bright and great future.

Development Plan Allocations

JN062058 Baghdad INA in English 1700 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 6 Feb (INA) -- Iraq has allocated ID. [Iraqi dinars] 19 billion (about 64 billion dlrs) for the development plan during the year 1982.

Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, in a press conference here last night, said Iraq's investment plan from that figure amounted to ID. 7 billion. The amount set for foreign trade ID. 5 billion while the budget amounted to ID. 7 billion.

Mr Ramadan, also the commander-in-chief of the Popular Army, said the number of the Popular Army's personnel now reached 370,000 fighters fully equipped and trained and the number will rise within this year to 470,000 fighters.

He disclosed that 60,000 militiamen are now on the war front carrying their duties with high combat spirit and said the revolution endeavoured to train all Iraqi citizens capable of carrying the gun.

AD-DUSTUR COMMENTS ON MUBARAK'S U.S. STATEMENT

JN060953 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Feb 82

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's editorial, AD-DUSTUR discusses Egyptian President Mubarak's statements in Washington yesterday. Under the headline "Mubarak's Statement," the paper says: One can consider President Mubarak's statements at a Washington press conference as an indicator of the policy his government will adopt toward the Palestinian issue, peace prospects with Israel and relations with the Arab countries and the superpowers.

With regard to the Palestinian issue, which took up most of his statements, Mubarak made sure to emphasize Egypt's commitment to the peace process after the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai according to the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian reading of the autonomy plan.

According to Egypt, this plan is a transitional step toward achieving the complete rights of the Palestinians and not a final solution. Thus the Egyptian reading differs completely from the Israeli reading, which considers the plan a final solution that deprives the Palestinians of the right to self-determination and denies them the choice of a Palestinian state.

Mubarak reiterated what his ministers and aides had stated during the last 2 months about mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestinians. To avoid any Israeli reservations about the PLO, Mubarak emphasized that what is required is a mutual recognition of rights and not of organizations or corporations.

AD-DUSTUR says: It is doubtful whether Mubarak's defense of the Palestinians' rights and Nonaligned Movement will be received favorably by his U.S. hosts.

With regard to Mubarak's talk on nonaligned philosophy and its importance to world peace, it is not expected to be understood by a U.S. administration whose greatest obsession is the Soviet monster and whose plan in the Middle East is to make the largest number of Arab countries join the U.S. trench and fire at the Soviets.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Thus the main success of Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington lies, perhaps, in securing an additional $1 billion in economic aid to Egypt and increasing military aid to its army. With regard to the Palestinian issue, autonomy, peace and the subject of nonalignment, Mubarak may have gained U.S. attention but certainly not U.S. enthusiasm or support.

COMMENTARY: ARABS MUST ADOPT PAN-ARAB STANDS

JN080858 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] While we in Jordan had adopted the responsible pan-Arab stand toward the Iraqi liberation war since its first day, other Arabs must seize the opportunity that Iraq now presents by accepting Arab volunteers. Because it is unlikely that this opportunity, which is the crossroad where a choice must be made between loyalty to this nation and its aspirations or conspiracy against this nation and all of its aims and aspirations, will be repeated in the near future.

After 17 months Iran insists on continuing the war, -- after 17 months of vacillating official stands between silence and defeatism, between silence and partiality in favor of Iran, and between silence and unwavering support for a regime that asserts by words and deeds hostility to everything Arab and insists on expressing and practicing its intentions toward achieving expansionist designs.

After such a long time, fraternal Iraq's acceptance of Arab volunteers places the Arabs in front of their responsibilities -- to assert their support or withdrawal of support, their silence or termination of their silence and their defeatism or insistence on supporting Iran, which is standing against the nation, its citizens, lands, waters and its islands in the gulf and the peninsula and beyond.

The Iraqis settled their war with Iran from the beginning. The military defeat and international isolation that Iraq achieved against Iran for rejecting all peace initiatives and mediations, have left deep scars of defeat which are reflected in all aspects of Iran's political, economic and social life.

As the fighting enters its 17th month on the eastern gate of the homeland, all observers affirm that the situation on the battlefields is a reflection of Iran's internal conditions. As soon as the fighting is over the regime in Iran will collapse, and as soon as the regime stops sending thousands to the front under the worst military, economic and political conditions, the internal situation will explode. This is well realized by the Iranian regime, which is working desperately and persistantly to avoid such a situation.

Why does Iraq announce its acceptance of thousands of Arab volunteers? The Iraqis answered this by asserting that they are not prepared to win the war and lose their nation in the process. The Iraqis do not want a victory in which the whole nation cannot participate, out of loyalty to this nation and in defense of its land and dignity.

It is true that Iraq under its leadership, people and armed forces has settled the battle militarily, but wars always have political results. Thus Iraq realizes that unless a supporting Arab stand is established, an Arab stand that genuinely cares for the homeland and the nation, the Iranian regime will consolidate its stand refusing to stop the fighting and rejecting all of Iraq's peace initiatives, and the numerous peace efforts.

Had an Arab stand been achieved against the Iranian ambitions, Iranian-Israeli cooperation and Iranian terrorist conspiracies either in Iraq, gulf or the peninsula, the war would have ended in its first month and the Iranian regime would have been forced to accept peace giving Iraq all of its rights. However, some Arabs resorted to silence as if Iraq was not confronting a covetous enemy, whose historic grudges and religious fanaticism drove it to attempt to control the Arab world, and destroy pan-Arabism and this nation that has carried the flags of Islam to various parts of the world.

What also happened, was that some Arabs failed to support Iraq against an Iranian aggression that sought Persianizing the gulf and extending the borders of the Iranian empire beyond Basra, returning the islands to Iran the mother and waving this big stick over all the Arab world.

Some Arabs did not hesitate to provide Iran with money, arms and political support, adopting this shameful stand out of fear, fear of an Iraqi victory that would place everybody vis-a-vis their pan-Arab responsibility to mobilize energies and potentials and fight the nation's battles to regain all of its rights and sovereignty over its land.

Those few are not worthy of these responsibilities, they do not want them as their interests and gains will only last as long as the Arab situation goes from worse to worst.

Once again, Iraq's welcome of Arab volunteers and the thousands who look forward to joining the Iraqis in defending the Arab world against aggression, expansion, control and the current emperial dreams, are the last chance for the silent defeatists to revise their stands and calculations. The final Iraqi victory is a victory for this nation which will never stop at Iraq's borders, its effects will knock at all doors and penetrate to the hearts of the millions who refuse to see the Arabs as a disintegrated and humiliated nation, an easy prey to all those who covet it, racists and those who dream of destroying every ability it has to resist aggression and build the Arab glory that would be able to perform its role completely for the homeland and nation and the whole of mankind.

UN'S URQUHART SAYS UN FORCE INCREASE LIKELY

NC071010 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart has stated that there is a great possibility that next week the UN Security Council will approve an increase in the UN force by 1,000 men. He said that the possibility of responding to the Lebanese request in this respect is now stronger than in December when the request was made.

Urquhart, who will arrive in Israel from Amman today, told MONDAY MORNING magazine that reinforcing [the UN force] by 1,000 men does not necessarily mean that the Israeli complex would be resolved -- the complex represented by the prevention of UNIFIL from spreading out, the legitimate authority from being established [in the south], and the Lebanese Army from being deployed in the border strip area.

Urquhart said that he does not have any information on the possibility of Israel launching a military attack against the south. He added, however, that should Israel launch a military operation, that would create serious complications for the United Nations, especially if such an attack passes through the area in which the UN forces are present.

AMAL, LEFTISTS CLASH IN ANSAR, AN-NABATIYAH

NC070736 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] The security situation in the south is becoming increasingly cautious both on the border and in some sectors near the border area following the resumption of clashes in the town of Ansar in the district of An-Nabatiyah between members of the Amal movement and armed men of the leftist parties and Palestinians. During these clashes heavy weapons and artillery were used. However, tension eased at a late hour last night and many inhabitants have moved out of the town.

The situation in the border area continues to be alarming. Israeli concentrations were sighted yesterday opposite Al-'Urqub while two helicopters transported Israeli officers for reconnaissance purposes and warplanes broke the sound barrier over the southern area.

CLASHES, ARSON CREATE TENSION IN SOUTH

NC071814 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] While citizens were enjoying sunny weather coupled with a remarkable rise in temperatures, southerners were experiencing tension in light of military movements on both sides of the border and the clashes that took place in Ansar, An-Nabatiyah district. These clashes then created a state of tension in Al-Bisariyah, where armed men set fire to the house of Ja'far Hasan Salih, the official in charge of military affairs in the Amal movement, seriously injuring his three sons.

Israeli warplanes have flown over the south several times, drawing antiaircraft fire.

FATAH, NATIONALIST LEADERS MEET TO HALT TENSIONS

NC071338 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] The results of the important meeting held yesterday among the members of the higher coordination committee parties has been received with complete satisfaction in popular and political circles, especially because it has come as a culmination of the security relaxation being experienced by the Lebanese national arena.

The expanded meeting, which was held yesterday, included brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], Lebanese National Movement Central Political Council Executive Secretary General Comrade Muhsin Ibrahim, head of the Arab Deterrent Forces intelligence department Col Muhammad Ghanim, Amal movement Command Council chairman lawyer Nabih Birri, and Arab Socialist Ba'th Party organization Regional Secretary 'Asim Qansuh.

An atmosphere of responsibility and frankness prevailed during the almost 3-hour meeting in view of the seriousness of the situation that developed out of the tension experienced in Beirut and the south.

The conferees pondered the extremely adverse consequences such a negative situation could have should it continue, especially in light of the suspect plans being prepared for the south. Some organizations linked to Israel and the Deuxieme Bureau have been preparing for these plans by expanding and fanning the clashes and pushing them to the point of no return, and coupling these actions with suspect slogans hostile to the national and Palestinian presence in the south.

As a result of serious, frank and clear discussions, the conferees emphasized the need for the unity of the national decision, particularly during the present fateful phase through which the south is passing in the wake of the Israeli threats in which the U.S. secretary of state had personally participated, and after serious information had been leaked about the state's policy regarding the question of the south and Lebanon in general.

The conferees also pondered at length the political and security problems that have arisen. An agreement was reached on a series of measures to modify the higher coordination framework and to implement them under central supervision in various areas, particularly in the south.

Sources have stated that a meeting will be held in the middle of next week in the south for this purpose.

After the meeting, Brother Muhsin Ibrahim lauded the important positive role that Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar and Colonel Ghanim played in bringing about the success of this national meeting.

Brother Nabih Birri emphasized that an agreement has been reached on specific measures to prevent a recurrence of the regrettable incidents. He added that the southern arena represents two arms that are open for the Palestinian brothers to enable them to pass through and achieve their self-determination in Palestine.

More On Meeting

NC070858 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Following the meeting, which continued until 1815 yesterday, lawyer Nabih Birri said: The meeting was devoted to discussing the situation in Lebanon, the Arab area and the U.S. attitude at the UN Security Council and General Assembly. He added: major discussions dealt with clashes in the southern area and with the question of not giving an opportunity to any faction to exploit those regrettable incidents.

Birri added: The meeting was held to purify hearts, to find out the causes of what happened and to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents. He concluded by saying: We have agreed on specific measures which will have an effect in the area. This agreement is final and permanent.

Muhsin Ibrahim said: The meeting has been one of the most successful meetings ever held. We were able to examine the shortcomings that existed in the formula of coordination in the various fields. We will be holding other meetings later on because this meeting has produced positive results which place enormous responsibilities on our shoulders. He added: An agreement has been reached on how to deter any security setback in the future.

PALESTINIANS ANNOUNCE 'ARAFAT-AL-AS'AD MEETING

JN051635 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday evening met with the speaker of the Lebanese Parliament, Kamil al-As'ad, in the presence of Abu al-Walid [Sa'id Sayil], Fatah Central Committee member and director of Central Operations of the joint forces.

After the meeting, 'Arafat declared: We support the implementation of all international resolutions issued on southern Lebanon and we will offer the Lebanese authorities all the assistance needed to implement them. Concerning the painful events in the south, 'Arafat said that the Palestinian revolution would pursue its active efforts to prevent their recurrence of escalation and, moreover, try to achieve overall reconciliation.

Kamil al-As'ad, in turn, made a statement stressing the importance of reaching an agreement between the Lebanese and the Palestinian resistance on the need to unify stands on expected proposals of the UN Security Council regarding the United Nations forces and resolutions, mainly Resolution 425 and its annexes which stipulate the liberation of the land from Israeli aggression and return of the legitimate authorities. Al-As'ad affirmed that the Palestinian resistance does not have any reservations about any practical formula guaranteeing implementation of these resolutions, either through the UN forces or without them. The Palestinian resistance, he added, in fact believes in the unity of Lebanese and Palestinian ranks and in the complete unity of Arab ranks concerning this matter.

Al-As'ad pointed out that Israel always tries to find pretexts and justifications for its aggressive plans and confirmed that the Palestinian resistance is intent on not providing Israel with any pretexts. Al-As'ad considered the cease-fire agreement to be merely a phase stressing that the Lebanese, Arabs and Palestinians demand the liberation of the south. He added: We have therefore agreed not to provide Israel with any justification even if Israel plans an imminent offensive, taking into consideration the fact that Israel does not retaliate, but creates pretexts to realize its own plans. He confirmed in this context that the Palestinian forces, which took positions in Hannawiyah recently for reasons dictated by local circumstances, are about to withdraw from the town.

Al-As'ad denounced the recent clashes of which the Palestinians and Lebanese, who are one people, were victims and stressed that this painful situation must end. He concluded that the Palestinian resistance is willing to cooperate in putting an end to this sorry situation and that such clashes will not be allowed to continue while Israel occupies southern Lebanon.

VOP CITES UN SOURCE ON FATAH UNIT WITHDRAWAL

NC080750 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] In southern Lebanon, an UN spokesman stated yesterday that a 60-man Fatah unit responded to an UN forces command's request and withdrew from the town of Hannawiyah, 10 kilometers from Tyre. The spokesman explained that this military unit entered the town at the beginning of this month to end the fighting that recently broke out there among the sons of the same national rank.

AL-WAZZAN, 'ARAFAT MEET, REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS

NC052146 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] At 1930, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met at his residence in Ar-Raqshah with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who was accompanied by Abu al-Walid [Col Sa'd Sayil] and Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid]. Their discussions dealt with general developments in Lebanon, particularly in the south.

After the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan made the following statement: Naturally, our recurrent meetings always aim at consultation and coordination during these difficult circumstances through which we are passing. We have always said that we, as Lebanese, as Arabs and as a Palestinian revolution, are today passing through most delicate phases of danger. Therefore, consultations and coordination are necessary over anything that will achieve our aims, prevent harm to Lebanon and ensure the steadfastness of our Lebanese people in the south and our brother Palestinians so as to bolster their legitimate right to return to their homeland.

His excellency added: Our Lebanese arena is troubled. The Arab arena is troubled also. The international arena is hot with its conflicts. Thus, it is essential in these circumstances we have complete coordination with everyone, particularly with the brother Palestinians.

The PLO Leader said: Undoubtedly, you are aware of the good relations between us and the brother officials here in Lebanon, about whom I always say that they have always opened their hearts to us. Our meetings with President Sarkis and now with the prime minister, with whom we are bound by good relations, are aimed at further cooperation and coordination in the interest of Lebanon and the Palestinian cause, particularly at this phase to which the prime minister referred as the difficult phase through which the Arab nation, the Palestinian issue and Lebanon are passing.

He added: It is necessary to say here before his excellency, the prime minister, that we have not spared any opportunity or effort to provide stability, security and further cooperation in the interest of this issue and this people.

In view of the changes and difficult challenges through which our area is passing, we cannot but say before his excellency, the prime minister, that this relationship and coordination between us must continue. We must mention that we were and are still victims of a huge Zionist-imperialist conspiracy from which the Palestinian people have primarily suffered and the heroic and steadfast Lebanese people are now suffering. God willing, this cooperation will have good results.

Replying to a question, 'Arafat said: Undoubtedly, we are facing a vicious enemy and, at the same time, a terrorist leadership made up of Begin, Shamir, Eytan and Sharon and other leaderships that are well-known as fascist and terroristic leaderships from whom we should expect anything. I am not saying this out of fear, but as a warning. He added: I remind our people in the occupied territory of the village chief in the [border] zone who, when tanks came to him with an Israeli intelligence officer who asked him for some things, answered: Mister, I am not your employee. I am a village chief of the Lebanese Government and my chief is President Sarkis.

Despite the tanks that surrounded his house, he showed a willpower that is similar to the will power of the child [young Palestinian fighter] and the flower [young female Palestinian fighter] who confront the tanks in our occupied territory in Palestine with stones. This nation must triumph.

MARONITES MEET LIBYANS TO DISCUSS PEACE INITIATIVE

NC051612 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] At 1300 today, the secretary general of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Beirut, 'Abd al-Qadir Ghuqah, met with the Independent Maronite Deputies at Deputy Jubran Rawq's residence and discussed the recent developments.

Following the meeting, Ghuqah said: The discussion was necessary. It comes within the attempts being made by the Libyan Jamahiriyah to find a Lebanese solution. He expressed the hope that these attempts will bear fruit and solve the Lebanese crisis. He affirmed that the aim behind these contacts is to offer an initiative to end the conflict in Lebanon. He said that we will inform everyone of the initiative, which we hope circumstances will enable us to offer. He denied that his meetings are confined to parliamentary groups, adding that he is seeking to meet with all the functionaries of the various trends in the various parts of Lebanon.

Deputy Tawq said: What attracts attention is that the old image of Libya has changed very significantly. He said: These meetings are necessary becasue they are beneficial to all sides.

PHALANGIST SEEKS SEPARATION OF MIDEAST ISSUES

NC052032 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] The Lebanese forces commander, Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, has said: If we call for the need to separate solving the Lebanese crisis from solving the Middle East crisis, it is because we do not want our security, freedom and fate to continue to be contingent upon the many claims inherent in the area's crisis. It is inadmissible for us to pay the price of expected cost regarding both the withdrawal from Sinai and the annexation of the Golan.

Bashir al-Jumayyil added: We did not sign the Camp David agreement nor did we establish the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. We support any solution that is acceptable to the Arabs, provided it is not at the expense of Lebanon.

In a statement to be published in the AL-WA'D magazine issued by the Kasrawan region for Phalangist [name indistinct] Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil pointed to those who are trying to exaggerate talk about the situation erupting, saying that if an eruption occurs here it will spread to other parts of the region, because we are now capable of staging acts of resistance against any side that brings his disputes and wars to us.

In answer to a question, Bashir al-Jumayyil said: We are against extending the crisis to other areas and against an extension of the term of office for President Sarkis. The basic problem is not whether or not to extend his term of office, but whether or not to hold elections. Failure to hold elections does not necessarily mean an extension of the term of office of President Sarkis, but it will open the doors to many possibilities. Concerted efforts are required to avoid such possibilities.

Al-Jumayyil said it is imperative to change the status quo regarding both the security and political aspects before summer so that the presidential elections will be the date for beginning a solution and not for entering the unknown.

Asked about the Phalangist-Syrian dialogue, Al-Jumayyil disclosed a plan he submitted to Syrian presidential representative Brig Gen Muhammad al-Khuli, whom he met in the summer on behalf of the Lebanese forces. This plan comprises six points and is connected with a plan of action to ensure Lebanese sovereignty throughout Lebanon and prevent Lebanese territory from becoming a source of danger to Syria. He added: A week after the meeting, however, Syrian envoys contacted the PLO and other effective parties in western Beirut, telling them that Bashir al-Jumayyil proposed to Syria the partitioning of Lebanon. He asked: Is this partition, if sovereignty throughout Lebanon is returned to the legitimate authority?

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR PARIS TALKS

NC071410 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Today at 1310, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign and Expatriates Affairs' Minister Fu'ad Butrus left Beirut for Paris on a private visit. Tomorrow Butrus will meet with Mr Claude Cheysson, the French External Affairs minister. Minister Butrus was seen off at the airport by the French ambassador in Lebanon, Paul Marc Henri, and high-ranking Foreign Ministry officials.

The Lebanese foreign minister's talks with his French counterpart will focus on the situation in Lebanon, particularly the situation in the south and the role that France might play in acceding to Lebanon's request to beef up the UN force's presence in the south. Lebanon's request will be discussed during the UN Security Council's meeting next week.

The talks will also deal with French-Lebanese bilateral relations in an effort to place these relations on a firm foundation, particularly in view of the ebb and flow of these relations as a result of recent statements issued by Minister Cheysson with regard to France's aid to Lebanon.

CYPRUS RADIO: KHADDAM ON INVOKING USSR TREATY

NC061209 Nicosia Domestic Service in Greek 1130 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] In an interview with a Lebanese paper following the passing of the UN resolution on the Golan Heights, Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam stated that if his country is attacked by Israel, Syria will invoke the provisions of the Syrian-Soviet friendship pact. He added: Syria is not an easy prey for anyone. As it is well known Syria and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement that if one is subjected to outside aggression, the other will come to its aid.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO UN VOTE ON GOLAN

Khaddam Lauds Resolution

JN061948 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1925 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] United Nations, 6 Feb (SANA) -- 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has welcomed the resolution adopted by the UN general assembly extraordinary emergency session last night concerning the occupied Syrian Golan Heights.

In a press conference following the voting, Khaddam said that the resolution, which was adopted by an overwhelming majority, constitutes a splendid victory for the peace and freedom movement in the world, a victory for democracy in the UN General Assembly and a defeat for hegemony and domination.

Khaddam said this resolution affirms the international community's rejection of all kinds of acts of aggression and racism. It also affirms the international community's determination to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East based on the UN Charter and resolutions. Khaddam pointed out that this resolution has also confirmed a number of facts including the international community's rejection of all Israeli measures. It decided to move from condemnation to adopting steps against the measures that violated international law and resolutions. This, Khaddam added, represents an important step in consolidating the United Nations.

Khaddam said that the 11th paragraph of the resolution determines a principle and a fact by declaring that Israel is a state which does not love peace and which has not abided by the UN Charter and resolutions and by declaring that the United Nations will resort to other measures if the UN secretary general fails to implement this resolution. This means that it will discuss suspending Israel's membership in the General Assembly.

On the result of voting on the UN General Assembly resolution yesterday, Khaddam said: We consider it a great victory, considering the pressure exerted by some U.S. circles on some states. Nevertheless, he said, the vote was four to one in favor of the resolution and this is landslide support.

Khaddam to AN-NAHAR

NC060657 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has said in a statement to AN-NAHAR that the Arab states scored an overwhelming political victory at the United Nations. The great majority of members supported the Arab resolution which was sponsored by the nonaligned group.

Khaddam said the Arabs achieved the following: First, comprehensive international support for Syria. Second, overwhelming international rejection of the aggressive Israeli policy.

Third, by considering Israel a nonpeace-loving state and a state that does not abide by UN resolutions, particularly the UN General Assembly resolution dated 11 May 1949 on which Israel's acceptance at the United Nations was based, this resolution ends the legitimacy of Israel's UN membership. Fourth, the UN General Assembly approved real sanctions against Israel.

Khaddam paid tribute to the joint, coordinated Arab efforts which played a principal role in attaining this political victory at the UN organization.

Khaddam 7 Feb Press Statement

JN080746 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus from New York last night after attending the UN General Assembly meetings.

In statements at the airport to questions from Arab and foreign newsmen and news agency correspondents accredited to Damascus, Khaddam said that the Arab issue won a tremendous political and ethical victory at the UN General Assembly extraordinary emergency session. The importance of this victory lies in the fact that it was attained after an acrimonious and fierce battle between two blocs, the NATO bloc led by the United States, and the Third World countries. This battle, which went beyond UN confines to cover the various world countries, resulted in the emergence of two strong currents struggling around the issues of hegemony, racism and world domination and around freedom, independence and sovereignty.

Khaddam said: The United States led the NATO camp and used all types of pressure. The Congress enacted a law that all countries taking stands against U.S. policy will be punished by suspending all aid. The U.S. administration threatened to withdraw from the United Nations and to adopt punitive measures against all those voting in favor of the draft resolution submitted by the nonaligned group.

Khaddam said: The great stand adopted by Greece caused a rift in the Western bloc. A few hours before the voting, Greek Prime Minister Papandreou instructed the Greek delegation to support the draft resolution. Thus, Greece, though a NATO member and despite difficult circumstances, adopted a historic stand that outstripped General de Gaulle's after the 1967 war. The Greek prime minister deserves all appreciation and respect.

Likewise, Spain played a positive role by rejecting all U.S. pressures. This role reflected on the Latin American bloc, which refused to side with the United States. Thus, we can say that Syria, the Arab nation and the Third World countries have won an important battle, a battle entitled: the Golan. This battle has actually gone beyond that to reject hegemony, racism and domination. Our victory as part of the Third World and Nonaligned Movement will undoubtedly affect the entire international situation. The results of this victory will serve the liberation movement and will reinforce the national independence of all Third World countries.

Needless to say, this victory should motivate us to intensify our work in various fields. This is because the struggle between Arabs and the Zionist enemy and between the Arabs and imperialism is a protracted one requiring further efforts, clear vision and determination.

On the Egyptian regime's abstention at the UN General Assembly, Khaddam said that the Egyptian stand is a part of Camp David. Rather, it is a natural result of the Camp David course. Had the Egyptian regime voted for the resolution, Israel would have condemned it and this would have refelcted on the existing relations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity. It is known that the Egyptian regime's policy suffers from ambiguities, primarily the restriction imposed on Egypt's sovereignty and freedom.

Asked if Syria will submit a working paper to the Arab foreign ministers conference scheduled for Tunis next Thursday, Khaddam said: We have prepared a working paper. It was conveyed to fraternal Arab countries 2 days ago so that it can be discussed by Arab governments and so that the delegations will be armed with clear-cut instructions and directives.

AL-BA'TH: Hit at Europeans

NC080910 Paris AFP in English 0853 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] Damascus, 8 Feb (AFP) -- Syria today urged Arab nations to strike back at the interests of European powers which last Friday voted against a United Nations resolution voting sanctions against Israel for its December annexation of the Golan Heights.

AL-BA'TH, the ruling Al-Ba'th party newspaper, said Arabs had no choice but to "break with Europeans, face up to the Zionist enemy and boycott America".

AL-BA'TH said only the Arabs were capable of enforcing the United Nations resolution on sanctions, adding: "It is time to hit at European interests and made them pay for alliance with the United States and Israel." The General Assembly on Friday voted 86 to 21, with 34 abstentions, to approve a resolution calling for sanctions against Israel.

The United States and all the members of the European Economic Community except Greece voted against the text.

TISHRIN Comment

JN051136 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0835 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Damascus, 5 Feb (SANA) -- In a commentary today, TISHRIN says: After its threats, the United States brandished the weapon of political blackmail and threatened to freeze its UN activities, if Israel were punished or if its membership were suspended. The United States has thus asserted that its strategic alliance with the Zionist state exists in practicality, that the Israeli aggression is a U.S. one and that the world must accept this aggression because this is considered a U.S. decision executed by a Zionist hand.

Under the headline "The U.S. Aggression and Its Zionist Tool," TISHRIN adds: The U.S. administration's cheap methods will not hinder the progress of mankind represented in the UN General Assembly for saying the final word because the representatives who have thus far addressed the UN General Assembly forum affirm that the issue goes beyond the condemnation of Israel to include the condemnation of the planner, instigator and motivator -- the United States.

TISHRIN points out that U.S. imperialism and world Zionism are two sides of one coin. It has become incumbent upon the Arabs, whose stands are still confined to denunciation and condemnation, to move into action and to realize completely that dealing with this face necessary leads to dealing with the other face. In this context, the paper refers to the essence of the experiment of As-Sadat, Numayri and others who have overtly and covertly blessed Camp David.

TISHRIN concludes that Syria has firmly disclosed to Arab officials and citizens, via the Golan issue, the extent of the U.S. involvement in the plot against their lands, rights, sovereignty and wealth. Syria will continue to pursue the course it has taken for itself. It is confident that the people will eventually score victory. Syria, taking the initiative to call on the Arabs to join the Pan-Arab battle, is first and foremost wagering on the will of the people and the inevitability of their victory.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY EGYPT'S ASH-SHADHILI

TISHRIN Interview

JN061111 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0924 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Damascus, 6 Feb (SANA) -- Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, secretary general of the Egyptian Nationalist Movement and chief of staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces during the 1973 October war, has announced that his discussions with President Hafiz al-Asad a few days ago dealt wtih the general Arab situation in light of the imperialist-Zionist plan and the Syrian Arab view on confronting this plan.

In an exclusive interview with TISHRIN today, Ash-Shadhili asserted that after meeting with President al-Asad he is more convinced of the correctness and soundness of the Syrian stand and view. He also asserted that all Arabs should adopt the Syrian stand if they genuinely desire to liberate Arab territories.

Ash-Shadhili pointed out that President Hafiz al-Asad expressed Syria's determination to bring Egypt back into the Arab fold, but only after Egypt's return to the situation under 'Abd an-Nasir when the Arabs knew it as hostile to imperialism and Zionism.

Ash-Shadhili asserted that the president of the Egyptian regime, Husni Mubarak, went to Washington to confirm his commitment to the Camp David accords and to seek more economic aid which the United States will grant him to burden Egypt with more debts.

Talk With Ba'th Leader

JN061556 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1515 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Damascus, 6 Feb (SANA) -- Comrade Naji Jamil, Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the Fedayeen Action Office, received this afternoon Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, secretary general of the Egyptian Nationalist Movement, who is currently on a visit to Syria at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command. The two sides reviewed the issues of Arab struggle and the role of the Arab revolution movement forces in confronting the Zionist imperialist enemy and its pillars and in wrecking the Camp David course and returning Egypt and its masses to the Arab fold.

Comrade Naji Jamil and Lieutenant General ash-Shadhili stressed the importance of the role being played by the Egyptian Nationalist Movement in beefing up its effectiveness to realize the objectives of the masses in Arab Egypt. They also reviewed the dimensions of the popular uprising in Sudan against the Numayri regime which runs panting after U.S. imperialism and its agents. They lauded the Sudanese people's struggle against this regime.

Comrade Jamil reiterated Syria's eagerness under President Hafiz al-Asad to continue to confront all imperialist Zionist onslaughts and to relentlessly consolidate Arab strength to attain a strategic balance with the Zionist enemy.

Ash-Shadhili highly praised Syria's militant role in leading the Arab revolution movement to confront the imperialist-Zionist onslaught, adding that Syria's confidence in the capability of the Egyptian masses to regain their pan-Arab role will assist us in continuing the struggle to overthrow all kinds of treason and capitulation.

Comment on Egypt's UN Stand

JN062003 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, secretary general of the Egyptian Nationalist Movement, has stated that the UN resolution unanimously adopted yesterday not only condemns Israel but Camp David itself as well.

In a statement addressed to the Arab people in Egypt, Lieutenant General ash-Shadhili condemned the Egyptian regime's abstention from voting in favor of the resolution of the international community condemning Israel. Ash-Shadhili denounced the Egyptian regime's delegate siding with the states that abstained from voting.

This stand, he added, is further evidence of the Egyptian regime's isolation in the international community and also of its complete joining of the colonialist-Zionist camp which antagonizes our Arab rights.

Lieutenant General ash-Shadhili emphasized that Israel would not have been able to annex the Golan had it not been for the Egyptian regime, which has been separated from the Arab body.

Ash-Shadhili said that, after isolating Egypt from the rest of the Arab nation, Israel is now isolating it from the Free World, which rejects expansion and aggression. He added that the Egyptian UN delegate's stand proves that this regime backs Israel much more than the NATO member-states.

In conclusion, Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili asked the Egyptian regime to adhere to the resolution of the international community and sever all diplomatic, economic, cultural and commercial relations with the Zionist entity.

He said: The great people of Egypt will not accept seeing Egypt's greatness and glorious history clasped in the arms of the Zionist-U.S. Camp David accords.

Further Comment

JN072036 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili, secretary general of the Egyptian Nationalist Movement, has praised steadfast Syria's firmly principled stand under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad against imperialist and Zionist plots. He said: It is natural for Syria to be the target of concentrated imperialist attacks because it stands in the first trench and is in the vanguard of the states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front against aggression.

Ash-Shadhili said this last night during his meeting with the Ba'th Party leadership in Damascus in the presence of the comrade secretary and members of the Damascus party branch.

He asserted: The Husni Mubarak regime is a continuation of the As-Sadat regime. Mubarak said this himself. Mubarak has not produced anything new and does not want change because he has pursued As-Sadat's line right from the start. Mubarak was As-Sadat's partner in every step he took.

Ash-Shadhili strongly condemned the Mubarak regime, saying: This regime abstained in the vote for the UN resolution calling for the punishment of Israel. It thus joined Israel and the enemies of the Arab nation. As a matter of fact, it deviated from the majority of the countries of the world which supported the resolution. The Mubarak regime has thus proved that it is pro-U.S. imperialism.

Ash-Shadhili said that the United States is not giving arms to Egypt to liberate Arab territories.

Concluding, Ash-Shadhili praised the assistance and suport given by the socialist bloc countries, headed by the friendly USSR, for the Arab cause.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD, POLICE CLASH IN LATAKIA

NC071239 Paris AFP in English 1213 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Ankara, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Clashes in the Syrian port of Latakia between local police and Muslim brothers, whose headquarters were believed destroyed by rockets, has stopped road traffic from Turkey to Syria, travelers reaching here from Syria said today. Fighting broke out in the region last Tuesday. Several hundred trucks were waiting at the Turkish border station of Cilvegezu for traffic to resume, the travelers said. Traffic was not stopped from Syria to Turkey.

JERUSALEM ARABIC ON REAGAN IN WELT AM SONNTAG

JN080723 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has stated that Israel is the only reliable U.S. ally in the Middle East. It is also a barrier against Soviet subversive policy. The president made this statement in an interview published today by the West German paper WELT AM SONNTAG. President Reagan said that Israel is not only strong, but also a democratic state which does not submit to the whims of a despotic ruler.

In his statement, the U.S. President asserted that the United States wants and seeks peace. However, there are ideals which one must fight for. He added that Israel is a stratregic asset and has become the only reliable ally in the region after the demise of the Shah of Iran. President Reagan added that Israel is stronger compared to other moderate pro-West states in the region such as Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Israel does not depend on a despotic ruler, but is guided by democracy and national unity and has the military and technological bases to remain the loyal ally of the United States, he said.

The U.S. President said that in crises, Israel can help the United States defend the Middle East region. It is an effective ally in resisting the Soviet threat.

The president added: It is our duty to help Israel, because it is the only barrier against Soviet subversive activities.

OFFICIAL CABINET ANNOUNCEMENT ON UN RESOLUTION

TA071407 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1345 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Government Press Office release of Cabinet announcement 7 February]

[Text] Jerusalem, 7 Feb -- The automatic anti-Israeli majority in the United Nations which 6 years ago approved the horrendous resolution equating Zionism with racism has again adopted a resolution against the Jewish state. This resolution does not have any validity. Neither will the representatives of countries which for over 30 years have refused to make peace or even enter negotiations about peace determine that Israel "is not a peace-seeking country," nor will a superpower that invaded Afghanistan and drove the Polish Government into establishing a regime of oppression and into liquidating elementary human rights preach to anyone about "expansionist desire."

Ever since its foundation, Israel has aspired to sign a peace treaty with all its neighbors. For the sake of peace with Egypt, Israel has made a great deal of sacrifices and it does not need anybody to preach to it about aspiring for peace. All Israeli governments demonstrated this aspiration, not merely with words but also with deeds.

The Israeli Government notes with satisfaction the fact that 20 free and democratic countries voted with it against the wicked draft resolution of the Arab and communist blocs at the United Nations, and extends its gratitude to their governments for their stand. It also notes that 71 countries expressed their misgivings about this draft resolution, either by voting against it, by abstaining from supporting it or by absenting themselves.

The automatic anti-Israeli majority at the United Nations General Assembly has once again proved that this international organization is not an instrument for the establishment or maintenance of peace but, on the contrary, has become a tool in the hands of hostile countries for spreading their hatred and hypocrisy, undermining the peace and security of nations.

Israel will persist on the road of aspiring to peace and security and of keeping freedom and democracy in the historic homeland of the Jewish people.

Together with all the seekers of truth, peace and justice we will dismiss the malicious resolution No E.S. - 9/1 of the UN General Assembly.

ISRAELI OFFICIALS REACT TO UN RESOLUTION

Shamir on Cabinet Session

TA072007 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Report by political correspondent Elimelekh Ram -- [videotaped]

[Text] It was one of the shortest political debates ever held by the Cabinet. The foreign minister presented a proposed reaction to the UN General Assembly resolution which was ultimately agreed upon after slight changes were introduced. Among other things, the paragraph dealing with the Soviet Union's role in the General Assembly resolution was shortened.

Ministers expressed their misgivings [hasagot] about the need to formulate harsh words against the Soviet Union. Mr Shamir claimed that the Soviet UN ambassador had made a satanic speech which should not be dismissed. The foreign minister emphasized: a common denominator is shared by the countries that supported the Syrian proposal. They are totalitarian and anti-Western countries -- whereas the countries that opposed the resolution are all democratic and free countries. Indeed, the resolution has no operational and practical value and it merely carries the nature of a recommendation. However, the foreign minister does not ignore the political damage that this resolution might provoke.

[Shamir] The resolution of the massive majority in the UN General Assembly may encourage all those elements in the world that strive to delegitimize the State of Israel. This resolution will give them further encouragement, it will encourage their activities and provide them with further arguments in their efforts to turn Israel into a state outside international law, a state with no claims and one that may be attacked at will.

[Question] In your capacity as foreign minister, what are the practical conclusions that you have drawn from the General Assembly resolution?

[Answer] First of all, let me speak about the decisions and conclusions that I am not drawing: I do not think that in our considerations we can take into account what the United Nations will say. Whatever we do or do not do will be wrong in the eyes of this automatic majority. Only one Israeli decision will please it; and that is, its resignation. This would receive massive support at the United Nations. Since we are not contemplating such a move and we intend to survive and develop, we will not take into account in our considerations what the United Nations may say or decide.

[Question] Is there any positive conclusion?

[Answer] On the other hand, we must double and treble our efforts to acquire more friends among the countries in the world.

[Question] Do you think this is possible in light of the political situation in the international arena today?

[Answer] This is definitely possible, and necessary. We have realized that also in this last vote at the United Nations, 70 members had reservations about this resolution in spite of the heavy pressure exerted by the Soviet and Arab blocs, [words indistinct]. We must work on these 70 countries, we must foster their friendship and understanding, we must tighten our relations with them.

[Ram] At today's Cabinet meeting Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg and Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori noted President Mubarak's statements in the United States and his support for self-determination of the Palestinians. These remarks contradict the Camp David accords and there should be a reaction to them, both ministers claimed. The Cabinet decided to hold a special debate on this matter.

UN Envoy Interviewed

TA080838 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Interview on the "Morning Newsreel" with UN ambassador Yehuda Blum, by correspondent in New York Arye Meckel -- date not given; recorded]

[Text] [Question] Ambassador Blum, you are departing today for consultations in Israel. Will you recommend taking any measures in reaction to the UN resolution, such as taking steps against the UN observers of the UN force stationed in the region?

[Answer] Naturally, you probably know that I prefer to say what I have to say about the resolution passed by the General Assembly last Friday to my superiors and the Cabinet. Any recommendation I have I will definitely refrain from disclosing through the media.

[Question] But in your estimation, should Israel react in any way to the UN resolution, or is it possible to simply swallow it and go on as though nothing happened?

[Answer] This is a grave resolution. In terms of its seriousness, there is a direct link to the decision on Zionism. There are value judgments here which, in their gravity, are reminiscent of that 1975 resolution, in which the General Assembly said that Zionism is a form of racism.

The resolution passed on Friday states that Israel is not a peace-loving country, that it is a country which is not fulfilling one of its undertakings in accordance with the UN Charter and the resolution which made it possible for it to enter into the UN organization in 1949. The countries of the world were urged to isolate Israel militarily, politically, economically, culturally and otherwise. Of course it includes in great detail a breakdown of the measures, the sanctions, that should be adopted against Israel, even though, of course, the entire resolution -- formally speaking -- is merely a recommendation, the gravity of these demands is immeasurable, as they constitute a continuation of a prolonged, extended process exercised by the majority of Arabs and their supporters in the General Assembly of gradually bringing about the delegitimization of Israel and of turning it into an outlawed country.

[Question] Is this also a foundation for the future expulsion of Israel from the General Assembly or the international organization?

[Answer] Clearly the Arabs and their supporters regard this resolution as a lever and as a groundbreaking work toward the realization of this goal at some future date, even if they are fully aware of the fact that any attempt to torpedo Israel's standing in one way or another in the organization -- by disqualifying Israel's credentials, by attempting to suspend it -- will have serious ramifications and implications as far as the organization itself is concerned. The United States, for example, has made it plain that in such eventuality it will itself withdraw from the UN. In my opinion, however, the Arabs have no intention of carrying out this threat, but it suits them to keep this two-edged sword hanging over our heads.

[Question] In view of the gravity with which the resolution should be regarded, as you point out, the question again arises on whether Israel should in any react to it, or should ignore it?

[Answer] As I have already told you, whatever I have to say on this I will say to my superiors, and it seems to me that there is no point going beyond that.

[Question] Following the resolution on Friday, an immediate argument arose in Israel on whether or not Israel is isolated. You are sitting here in what one may call the Tower of Babylon, that glass building where international activity is concentrated. Do you, Professor Blum, believe that Israel is more isolated today?

[Answer] No, I do not think so. I do not believe this resolution has, or will have, immediate practical implications. The contacts and relations we have in the glass building will certainly not be harmed as a result of this resolution, just as I do not think the other diplomatic ties Israel has on the bilateral plane with other countries might be hampered as a result of this resolution, surely not in the short run. However, it is clear that the Arabs and their supporters regard the resolution as a means of bringing about the increased isolation of Israel on the international arena in the long run, and this is where its gravity lies.

[Question] I would like to ask you a personal question, Professor Blum: As the Israeli envoy, and with Israel being the country people want to isolate and impose a boycott or sanctions on -- as the resolution reads -- do you feel lonely when you roam about the halls of this building?

[Answer] No, I feel no loneliness. Incidentally, I addressed myself to the conduct of other delegates in my speech on Friday at the General Assembly, when I asked in advance that all those who would vote against us or would abstain from voting and who would subsequently come to apologize before me on how they voted refrain from doing so. The fact is that many ambassadors who either vote against us or who do not support us later come, on a private basis, to express to me their sentiments and tell me how much they regret having been forced to vote the way they did, that they know the real truth but that their vote was dictated by considerations which often have absolutely nothing to do with the issue under discussion. They admit this and, in effect, volunteer this information to me at their own initiative. So there is really no room to talk about isolation.

I hold frequent meetings also with representatives of countries with which we have no formal relations. I do not think the resolution yesterday will have any effect whatsoever on this aspect of my work.

[Question] In your opinion, should this resolution be regarded with utmost seriousness. Any time such a resolution is passed, the argument always crops up on whether this really makes Israel's predicament worse, or could it be dismissed and we will just go on?

[Answer] I would say that one should beware of being dragged into maintaining one extreme approach or another. The approach of dismissing the United Nations altogether is in my opinion wrong because what happens there and the resolutions adopted there have a certain impact, and one cannot dismiss events in the United Nations as being something of no import at all. On the other hand, there is no reason to be dragged into the other extreme and mourn over every UN resolution as though it, God forbid, portends the end of Israel as a state.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman

TA081000 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 8 Feb 82

[Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement issued 6 February]

[Text] "The resolution adopted tonight by the UN emergency special session regarding the Golan Heights is one more unjust, illogical and unbalanced resolution in the long chain of anti-Israeli resolutions passed over the years in the UN, attempting to undermine the very existence of Israel.

It amounts to a shameful expoitation of the world organization [illegible]'ts well-known anti-Israel majority.

"The spectacle of a so-called emergency session in the absence of any real emergency, on an issue undeserving of all the international attention heaped on it appears especially strange when one considers the many important matters which the UN is prevented from addressing. Such an event is bound to further affect the organization's relevance to the world.

"The resolution is basically flawed by the absence in it of any call for a negotiated peace settlement. Indeed, due to Syria's intransigent rejection ever since 1967 of Security Council Resolution 242, any mention of that resolution has been banished from the resolution adopted today. It is the height of irony that not Syria's rejection of peace is being censured, but Israel's attempt to give the Golan Heights a degree of normalcy in the face of Syria's threats.

"The refusal of many governments, almost half the membership of the UN, to support the resolution, is greatly appreciated in Israel. Its support by some governments maintaining normal diplomatic relations with Israel is noted with deep regret.

"This resolution will not deter Israel from continuing its active policy of seeking a negotiated peace with all neighboring states. Israel notes with dismay that the UN General Assembly has once again dissociated itself from this quest."

PRESS REACTION TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION

TA070707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 7 Feb 82

[From the review of the morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] HA'ARETZ says we are rejecting the UN General Assembly resolution because we do not regard ourselves as meriting ostracism by the family of nations. We are hoping that our reciprocal relations will not be negatively affected by the resolution, but what happened now in the General Assembly brings to mind once again the fact that we have deeply imbroiled ourselves in a purposeless, pointless mess. The damage caused by the Golan Law could have been avoided and still we could have simultaneously not harmed our defense situation on the northeastern front.

HATZOFE writes that the UN General Assembly resolution is yet another cynical, vicious and shameless resolutions like the one that described Zionism as racist. This resolution marks the nadir of the moral decay to which the United Nations has deteriorated, helplessly unable to cope with the issues it should by nature tackle. As far as Israel is concerned, one should hope that something good will nonetheless ultimately emerge and that Western countries which have thus far succumbed to pressure by the Arab countries will reach a stage where they entertain second throughts on the nature and character of the United Nations, which has become an arena for incitement against Israel.

DAVAR says that the General Assembly's recommendation to impose a boycott on Israel will most probably not constitute the end of the story in the scheme employed by the coalition hostile to Israel, striving to suspend it from that international body -- as they did to South Africa -- and to delegitimize Israel. Apart from having a limited range of options to exercise on our own, we will be dependent first and foremost on activating the U.S. influence in waging our fight to foil this plot, the United States being the venue for the UN headquarters. The inhabitants of the big apple and its 2 million Jews might also be asked to add their weight into this fight, but it will be a grave and dangerous mistake if the Israeli Government and the Knesset do not learn the lesson from this vote and if they do not refrain from making provocative decisions uncalled for by the existential and defense requirements of Israel.

'VAL HAMISHMAR writes that the vote of the 21 countries who opposed the resolution and the abstention of another 34 countries shows that many countries have not accepted the distortion presented by the Syrian proposal. One should bear in mind that both the countries that opposed the resolution and those who abstained take distinct issue with the Golan annexation. Yet they did not accept the Syrian proposal out of the clear conviction that this is a revengeful resolution and that the path trodden by the supporters of the resolution would ultimately lead to the dissolution of that international body.

The banner of hatred has long unfurled from atop the UN building, not the flag of peace that should by right have characterized that organization.

The Jerusalem POST says that in the short-term perhaps, Mr Begin has come out relatively unscathed from his decision to annex the Golan. Washington's wrath has softened to the extent that it blocks the wrath of others, and Egypt, too, stood apart from the majority and abstained. But decisions that alienate not only the nations foes, but also its friends, have a cumulative negative effect. Mr Begin obviously believed that his Golan decision justified the risk. However, since the benefits of the decision are not at all clear, what remains is to measure the fallout and the scars it may leave upon the future.

Further Reaction

TA070915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Review of the midday press editorials]

[Text] Both midday papers mince no words in condemning the UN General Assembly resolution calling for a boycott on Israel.

MA'ARIV notes that, practically speaking, a lot depends on the interpretation given it by the countries that supported it. The newspaper notes that some of them have diplomatic ties and some have commercial ties with Israel. The next few weeks will show what practical implications these countries will deduce from their vote.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT believes that a lot depends on Washington's deeds and its willingness to reach practical conclusions from the rejection [dehiya] of its unequivocal warning to the assembly members.

As for Israel, YEDI'OT AHARONOT says that it will be interesting to see if and when it will react to the position taken by Egypt and its greater affinity -- politically and strategically -- with the anti-Israeli camp.

MK'S BEN-ELISAR, EBAN DISCUSS UN RESOLUTION

TA071251 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1125 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Interview with chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar in the Jerusalem studios and Alignment MK Abba Eban in the Tel Aviv studio by anchorman 'Oded Ben-'Ami and Knesset reporter Razi Barqay -- live]

[Text] [Ben'Ami] Chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, will the UN General Assembly resolution be discussed by the committee, will you submit it for discussion.

[Ben-Elisar] I do not think there is any need to submit it for a special debate, but at the same time it stands to reason that in the course of the debate attended either by the foreign minister or the prime minister the issue will be mentioned.

[Ben-'Ami] The Likud was furious, or at least came out with a statement to that effect, that the Alignment did not sufficiently support the Cabinet and did not cooperate with it enough on this entire issue, which ultimately led to the near-complete condemnation at the General Assembly. Do you share this anger or this preaching of morals to the Alignment?

[Ben-Elisar] There is no preaching involved here. What we have here is simply a very sad reality. The UN General Assembly passed a very harsh resolution against Israel. It is not the first hard resolution passed against Israel; there have been others over the years, in fact under all Israeli governments, includng those in which MK Eban served as foreign minister. It is also possible to mention many other examples, but this is really a very grave decision. The main opposition, the Labor party, MAPAM -- the Alignment in general -- despite everything, instead of demonstrating a national consensus that would refute what was stated in that resolution, have weakened their opposition to it. Although they objected to the resolution, they have weakened their stand by saying that the Israeli Cabinet brought about that resolution. So, clearly the whole world will underline the Labor Party, the Alignment's opposition to the Cabinet's policy and will minimize, or altogether refrain from mentioning the Labor Party's condemnation of the UN resolution.

[Barqay] Mr Eban, you are being accused of harming the national consensus. How would you respond to these remarks by the chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee?

[Eban] In order to clarify all the foolishness and stupidity in those remarks, let me cite an example from another democratic country: In the United States controversial decisions were made which did not work out nicely, like the Bay of Pigs invasion, the bombing of Kampuchea, the sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia. Let us focus on the sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia. Opposition senators rose and criticized their government's decision vigorously, and this decision was described by the U.S. president as essential for U.S. security, vital to the national security [last five words in English]. What did the Likud members have to say about this? They said: Look what a dignified country the United States is and how great is the integrity, freedom and courage of Senators Jackson, Kennedy, Moynihan, Cranston, who did not hesitate to oppose even the policy of their own government, which in their opinion is harmful to their country's interests. This means the Likud is the faithful advocate of democracy and free criticism in other countries, but advocates some sort of mental totalitarianism in Israel. The criticism honors the country, it elevates its standing, and this phenomenon whereby a country experiences internal conflicts, considers and weighs matters and makes various evaluations is unequaled in adding to the country's prestige, standing and esteem -- and I have experience in this. This is true at least in cases in which democratic principles are exercised. So whether someone shares our opinion or differs with it is beside the point -- the very phenomenon of criticism not only is nothing to cause anguish, but is very comforting.

As for the matter at hand, the decision is deplorable and base, the most strong and extreme ever passed. When I was foreign minister no such resolutions were passed, and this is not a matter of a historic progression. The fact is that there is, with time, an increasing exacerbation of the tone of criticism voiced by the United Nations. The United Nations has stifled the diplomatic dialogue throughout the world. Outside the United Nations, it is not common practice, in the diplomatic dialogue, to employ terms of abuse and malicious slanders and condemnation as inside it.

[Barqay] But, Mr Eban, the Likud has come out with an accusation that, unlike itself when it was in the opposition, you are putting spikes in the wheels of the government. The Likud contends that when it was in the opposition and resolutions like the one comparing Zionism to racism were passed, the opposition, then the Likud did not come out against the government but went shoulder to shoulder with the government, the Alignment Cabinet, to ward off outside attacks?

[Eban] If the General Assembly's anti-Zionist resolution was preceded by some demonstration or action by the Israeli Government which could have supported the contention that it was the Israeli Cabinet that had contributed to raising the issue, then the opposition would have neglected its job if it did not point this out.

But never once did I participate in a dispute with Israel's enemies in the United Nations when those did not cite statements, primarily by Menahem Begin and others, in order to refute my contention that Israel is a peace-loving country. I have never said that it was not the right or duty of the opposition to express its opinion, if indeed this is its view. I favor the opposition voicing its opinion. This is its right. It is more important to correct the policy through criticism than worry that someone might quote the remarks in some foreign newspaper. The quote in the foreign newspaper is insignificant and carries no weight, whereas correcting the policy through criticism is the very spirit of democracy. It is the panacea to all the ailments of the time and place.

[Barqay] In other words, in your opinion the Golan Law directly contributed to the UN General Assembly's resolution?

[Eban] I do not believe anyone who says otherwise. Incidentally, why talk about the opposition. Why should Mr Ben-Elisar not attack all today's morning newspapers? The four newspapers I read this morning along with criticizing the resolution strongly, also criticize the reasons that led to raising this issue. So perhaps the freedom of the press should also be revoked, and not just the opposition's right to speak.

[Barqay] Dr Ben-Elisar, in retrospect, was the Golan Law really necessary legislation?

[Ben-Elisar] With your permission, I would first like to react to what Mr Eban said, and he is known to be a very honorable man, one who is very careful in his use of the language, and is also courteous and well-behaved. In the use of such terms as foolishness or stupidty upon hearing something which may be unsavory to his ear, I would say he was actually demonstrating that he is angry at someone or at a few, or alternatively that he cannot control his temper; and this is a pity. After all, this is a resolution passed by the UN General Assembly against Israel, and to a large extent also against the people of Israel, and my impression is that under such circumstances, which are not the most convenient for the country, it would be better if at least the entire Zionist camp on all its shades and hues set itself behind the Cabinet. This is not to say, naturally, that there is no room for criticism. Not at all. We are after all living in a democratic country, in a democratic regime, where criticism is desirable and sometimes even mandatory, but the timing is also important, of course. One has to know when to criticize and when to unite, because criticism at that time could also point to factionalism and perhaps even gladden the hearts of foes — which of course is not the intention, or so at least I hope, of either MK Abba Eban or his party.

Despite all this, the criticism of the Cabinet decision has already been made in the past, as well as at the vote of support it won in the Knesset, in which -- it is my duty to mention — a not insubstantial number of members of the Labor Party also participated. This was a vote in which some other members of the Labor Party would have liked to participate, but did not dare.

Many leaders of the Labor Party, even among its leadership, have more than once expressed their view that Israel will not descend from the Golan Heights. In other words, they wanted the Golan Heights to be ours but did not dare to do something to that effect. What right or justification does Mr Abba Eban have in coming today and saying that in this state of affairs, too -- in which Israel is under attack as it is -- he reserves the right to criticize the attack as well as the Cabinet, which is his Cabinet just as much as it is mine. I must say that with all due respect, this still is beyond my comprehension.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Eban, what is your opinion on the suggestion you and we heard together in the report by our political correspondent, the one raised by Interior Minister Dr Burg, to create ties between the coalition and the opposition -- perhaps even dispatch joint information delegations -- to explain the Cabinet's policy following this decision?

[Eban] No doubt Minister Burg has a more open, realistic and balanced approach than expressed, unfortunately, by MK Ben-Elisar just now, since there was no chance and no danger that we would leave the Golan even before the law was promulgated and even without it. The law actually only consolidated around the Golan some international attitude which had earlier been quiet and serene. But this is just the point. When a military operation is launched, involving casualties -- and here there are certain political losses, although I do not think this resolution would actually be implemented -- then a debriefing is held, questions are raised regarding a possible reconsideration of the decision-making processes, as they may have been too rash, maybe not all the options were taken into account, possibly the balance between the gains and the losses was negative. In my opinion, a mature country must balance this out, as I pointed out. Ben-Elisar did not address himself to this, but U.S. senators accompanied the debate over the AWACS with criticism of their government because they believed it was their duty to their country, not to their government. However, if Minister Burg proposes that we explain all the negativism and malice in this resolution -- by all means, I am prepared to do this. I have already written something about the extremity of the United Nations as a whole and the imbalanced approach exercised there and the hostility toward Israel and the readiness to join aggressive blocs -- certainly I think we could do this. I do not believe this has to be done in the form of joint information frameworks, because every party has its own style, every party has its own contacts and relations. But regarding a condemnation of the General Assembly resolution, to my mind we have both the obligation as well as the prestige, standing and experience -- bitter as it is -- that would enable us to participate in such an enterprise.

[Ben-'Ami] Dr Ben-Elisar, to sum up?

[Ben-Elisar] I was just about to welcome MK Abba Eban's willingness to have the alignment and the Likud jointly -- in order to prove a joint, unified and united front of the people in Israel -- come out against this resolution passed at the General Assembly, a resolution that shames the organization it emanated from, but from the latter part of his remarks, I gathered he was not prepared for such a joint operation.

[Eban, breaking in] It is merely a technicality how one does it. I would prefer that we employ our own style and our principles and guidelines.

[Ben-Elisar] Naturally, everyone always uses his style, but in regard to the difference between a joint appearance or lack thereof -- this is not merely a technical difference; there is also a substantive difference. Appearing together before the nations of the world and all those who led to this resolution among the nations of the world is totally distinct from a separate appearance.

However, even though I had intended to remind MK Eban of all those resolutions passed in the past, very serious ones, like the one on Jerusalem in 1967 -- not only with regard to Zionism and racism but also in 1971, in 1972, 1973 on the Israeli Cabinet's policy, and let us add as a side remark that at the time it was an Alignment-led government -- on the Cabinet's policy in Judaea and Samaria, on the settlement activity and on a whole range of awful things that, naturally, did not actually happen. The opposition at the time stood by the Cabinet. Perhaps there is not much point mentioning all this, in order to possibly have some chance of going together, in unity, against the current resolution.

[Ben-'Ami] Gentlemen, MK's Eliyahu Ben-Elisar and Aba Eban, I thank you for coming to our studios. I also wish to thank Razi Barqay.

GAZA TURNS DOWN MAYOR'S RESIGNATION

TA071035 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa has submitted his resignation to the municipal council, but it turned down the resignation. Ash-Shawwa claims the Military Government is confining him. Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj has urged his colleague from Gaza to rescind his resignation.

Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, reports that the Gaza mayor has been entangled in political problems because of his declarations favoring the political process interpreted as an anti-PLO one. Last week, representatives of the As-Sa'iqah terrorist organization demanded that Rashad ash-Shawwa be severely punished, but PLO head Yasir 'Arafat rejected their demand.

EGYPTIAN CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES 7 FEB

TA071015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] The Egytpian chief of staff arrived this morning together with a party of officers for a visit to Israel. He was welcomed by Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan.

Our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, reports that the Egyptian chief of staff will visit Minister Sharon in his office this afternoon. In the course of his visit, he will also tour an air force base and will visit the Merkava tank production line.

Meets Eytan, Makes Remarks

TA071713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] According to the Egyptian chief of staff, peace with Israel is a strategic and not merely a tactical position. This is reported by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. Lieutenant General 'Abd Rab an-Nabi Hafiz added that his visit suggests that cooperation would henceforth exist between Egypt and Israel and this must be an example for other countries in this region. He explained that he had told Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan that there are no differences of opinion between Egypt and Israel.

Earlier, the Egyptian chief of staff conferred with the defense minister. Minister Sharon reviewed the IDF's structure and stressed the importance of the settlements and regional defense.

UPRISING REPORTED IN SYRIAN CITY, BORDER CLOSED

TA071827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] A general, popular uprising has been raging in the city of Hamah in northern Syria for some days now. This has been learned today from reliable Arab sources in Beirut. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ahron Barne'a says that the incidents involved in this uprising is a most severe test for the Syrian regime, the worst known since the big uprising there in the winter of 1980. At the same time details have been learned this evening also of flights between the Syrian security forces and the Muslim Brotherhood members in the area of Latakia, the stronghold of the members of the ruling 'Alawite minority.

[Begin Barne'a recording] According to sources in Beirut the deterioration in the situation began about a week ago after Syrian security forces had conducted a search for Muslim Brotherhood members in Hamah. During the search the Syrians used drastic means, and according to testimony they made direct hits on civilian residences with heavy artillery fire. In the wake of this operation an unprecedentedly large-scale reaction by Hammat citizens and Muslim Brotherhood members was spontaneously organized. Thousands of armed citizens stormed installations and guard positions of the Syrian Army and police and wounded dozens of security personnel. Later the civilians entrenched themselves in a few key points throughout the city and opened fire with all types of arms in their possession at the Syrian Army's reinforcements rushed to Hammat. In recent days the Syrians rushed hundreds of armored vehicles to the city and began an overall assault accompanied by heavy artillery shelling of civilian quarters in the suburbs of Hamah. According to testimony by passengers who arrived in Lebanon from Syria, convoys of tanks and heavy cannons were seen moving on the roads leading to the city from the southern part of Syria, despite the severe weather conditions prevailing in the region. There was also a report on hundreds of commandoes who arrived in the region by air, in the framework of the retaliatory actions launched by the Syrian security forces. According to the reports, hundreds of citizens were killed in the incidents due to the wild firing by the Syrian forces. The Syrian forces imposed a total blackout on these events for fear that an uncontrollable uprising would spread from Hamah to the cities of Homs and Aleppo which also contain a large concentration of Sunnis as well as numerous Muslim Brotherhood activists and sympathizers.

These incidents in Hamah and those learned of today in Latakia is, as mentioned, the most critical test the Syrian regime has faced since the large uprising in northern Syria in the winter of 1980. Then, it may be recalled, the 3rd Armored Division was transferred from the Damascus area to the Aleppo area to cope with the internal problems there. It should be remembered that this is yet another tremor in President al-Asad's regime within a very short time, following the conspiracy uncovered last month of army officers who desired to topple the 'Alawite regime in Damascus. [end recording]

Border With Turkey Closed

TA071915 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1907 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Syria has been forced to close its international border with Turkey in the wake of the exacerbation of the civilian uprising in northern Syria. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that, according to reports from Beirut, the Syrians have in the last week considerably reinforced their military presence around Hamah and Latakia, two of the largest cities in northern Syria. Our monitor adds that since last Tuesday, there have been riots, especially in Hamah, and hundreds of local residents have been killed and dozens of Syrian Army personnel have been injured. The Syrian authorities have imposed a total blackout on reports from northern Syria. Most reports about the incidents there have been disclosed by the Christian radio stations in Lebanon.

JERUSALEM POST COMMENTARY ON WEST BANK

TA031032 Jerusalem POST in English 3 Feb 82 p 10

[David Richardson commentary: "The West Bank Tug-of-War"]

[Text] What prompted Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, an acknowledged moderate but a decidedly realistic politician familiar with the pitfalls of Palestinian politics, to call on the PLO to recognize Israel?

The mayor, who has previously had run-ins with the PLO for speaking his mind, deliberately challenged its reluctance to play what Yasir 'Arafat has always insisted is his "last and only card."

It might well be, as the affable mayor has explained, that his remarks during an unplanned meeting with the outgoing and incoming bureau chiefs of the REUTER news agency, were condensed into a statement calling on the PLO "to challenge Israel for peace" by recognizing the Jewish state.

That report set off a flurry of interviews and clarifications, but Frayj was not deterred by the publicity. He took the unusual step of repeating his remarks in an interview in Arabic with radio Monte Carlo, well aware that it is closely monitored throughout the Arab world.

Frayj has insisted that his call did not contain much that was new. Indeed, two years ago, in an interview with the Jerusalem POST, he said that he did not believe there was a military solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict -- a statement he repeated last week.

"This conflict can only be settled when each party accepts the rights of the other in a fair and courageous manner. As long as the Israelis claim that a Palestinian nation does not exist, and that the Palestinian Arabs have no rights, and that this is 'Eretz Yisra'el, all their efforts for peace are doomed to failure. Likewise, for the Arabs to deny the right of Israel means that Israel will never withdraw from the occupied territories. This is my belief and by this I stand."

What was new was the directness of his call to the PLO to recognize Israel. Frayj was not totally alone in this. The same weekend, 'Arafat's roving representative in Europe, 'Islam as-Sartawi, also called on his organization to talk to "the peace camp in Israel," and Egypt's foreign minister, Kamal Hassan 'Ali, repeated the Egyptian proposal for mutual recognition.

In the territories, Frayj was supported by Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa, and in private conversations by others. They, however, refused to be quoted. Ramallah journalist Raymonda at-Tawil called on her Israeli and Arab colleagues to work "for the legitimate rights of both peoples" and qualified her criticism of Frayj's statement by terming it a "diplomatic mistake."

It took several days for the growls of condemnation to emerge from Beirut and Damascus and from the acknowledged radicals among the West Bank leaders, led by Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah. Eventually, Frayj -- and more particularly Ash-Shawwa -- "elaborated" on their statements in an effort to mend their fences with the PLO. Ash-Shawwa effectively retracted his statement and Frayj "clarified" his remarks by pointing out that he had not questioned "the legitimacy of the PLO and its leadership."

For some time, Frayj has viewed the expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank, and particularly in the Bethlehem area, with increasing concern. The current stalemate is clearly to Israel's advantage, he feels, and the pace of change in the area is not appreciated by the Palestinian leadership in Beirut.

"In 10 years, Israel will have successfully 'Judaized' the West Bank, and talk of a Palestinian state within the pre-1967 borders of the West Bank will be meaningless -- there will be nothing left for us."

To be sure, he is not alone in this: "I am aware that we are losing our geographic and demographic integrity," said one of the radical nationalist figures in Ramallah this week, "but I don't think anything will come of statements like Frayj's."

Tulkarm Mayor Hilmi Hanun spoke of the Israeli withdrawal from Yamit as a "precedent," and other, even moderate, leaders in the territories did not regard the settlements "as an insurmountable obstacle" to the creation of a Palestinian state.

What does set Frayj and his followers apart from other opinion on the West Bank is his desire for realistic analysis and, particularly, his willingness to reach an operative conclusion. For many of the others who admit to a basic pessimism about their situation, hope lies in a renewed balance of powers in the area, change in Egypt -- even change in Israel, but not in themselves: "We are clearly the weaker party; what do we have to offer?" asked one this week.

The acute dilemma faced by local Palestinians is the increasing tension they feel between local patriotism and their emotional and political commitment to a leadership abroad, whose prime constituency is not the West Bank or Gaza.

Discussions of 'Arafat's on-again, off-again support for the eight-point Saudi initiative, which was endorsed by most West Bank figures, including the radicals, elicits apologetic explanations that the PLO in Beirut cannot ignore the pressures of its backers, including Syria.

European diplomats have not hidden their disappointment at 'Arafat's failure to deliver any form of concession which would have paved the way for a meeting with Britain's Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, (on behalf of the EEC), or his failure to stick by his initial endorsement of the Saudi plan.

There are indications that they are once again looking to the West Bank and Gaza for a way of generating some movement.

According to West Bank sources, the various consular offices in east Jerusalem have been increasingly active over the past few months. Both the diplomats and the West Bankers deny, or "refuse to comment," on a report in the east Jerusalem daily AL-QUDS that the British, French and American consulates have drawn up a list of representative moderate figures who have the approval of Jordan and the indirect acquiesence of the PLO to enter the peace process.

"I'm sure such a list exists," said one whose name is reportedly on the lists: "It's the lists of people they normally invite for dinner and other social occasions."

Whatever the veracity of that report, it does reflect the assessment of many, including West Bankers, that in the face of the PLO's inability to move on its own, they must try to bring Israeli settlements -- which are destroying our inheritance" -- to a stop.

For all their criticism of Frayj's call, some of the more radical personalities in the area have suggested that it might facilitate the establishment of contacts between the U.S. and the PLO. They recall the U.S. commitment not to have dealings with the organization until it recognizes Israel and speculate about the mayor's meeting with Secretary of State Alexander Haig and the subsequent meeting between Frayj, Anwar Nusaybah and Ramallah lawyer 'Aziz Shihadah with Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. assistant secretary of state.

What many West Bankers now hope for is a joint American-European plan to replace the autonomy proposals, which they all regard as a dead letter. Such a plan would be closer to what they regard as the minimal starting point for negotiations with Israel -- the recognition of the right to self-determination. They count on Egypt's President Husni Mubarak to sell it to the Arabs, including the PLO -- perhaps by involving the Soviet Union.

If he fails, local Palestinians will once again face the problem Iliyas Frayj grappled with last week: When to take their fate in o their own hands.

POLL: ISRAELIS TRUST EGYPT NOT TO AID SYRIA

TA041308 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Feb 82 p 3

[HA'ARETZ Pori poll]

[Text] The majority of the Israeli public believes that Egypt would not intervene on behalf of Syria, if a war were to break out, and is convinced that Israel could win such a war. This emerges from a nationwide opinion poll conducted by Pori at the behest of HA'ARETZ.

To the question, "If a war with Syria were to break out, do you think Egypt would intervene on behalf of Syria, or would it remain neutral and not intervene?" Some 58.7 percent said they believed Egypt would not intervene and would remain neutral, whereas 17.8 percent answered they feared Egypt would intervene in such a case on behalf of Syria.

A different answer was given by 9.5 percent, who thought it depended on circumstances, such as whether all of the Sinai was already in Egypt's hands, whether Egypt had a special interest in intervening, and whether this would be a lengthy war.

The remaining 14 percent said they "do not know" how Egypt would behave in such an event.

An additional question was: "If an ultimate full peace is not reached with the rest of Arab countries, do you believe that the Arab countries without Eygpt could defeat Israel in another war?" Some 80.3 percent said that they are convinced the Arab states could not defeat Israel. Only 4.0 percent feared that the Arab states could manage to defeat Israel, while 4.2 percent said they could "perhaps" defeat Israel.

The remaining 11.5 percent said they do not know what the results of such a war would be.

The poll encompassed a representative cross section of 1,200 men and women, who were given personal interviews throughout the country.

'AL HAMISHMAR: FOREIGN DEBTS INCREASED IN 1981

TA031358 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 3 Feb 82 p 2

[Text] The Israeli economy's foreign currency debts at the end of August 1981 totaled 17.3 billion shekels, an increase of $880 million over the last year.

But while the debts actually increased, the weakening of the European currencies led to a drop in the debt in terms of dollars, by a sum of $550 over last year and $400 million from the beginning of the year.

The increase in debts is divided equally between the government debt and the private one.

The weight of short-term debts rose from 31.5 percent of the overall debt to 36.5 percent during the year.

The short-term debts totals $1.3 billion and there is another $1 billion from repayment of long-term loans that will apply to 1982.

From the government debt totaling $12.8 billion, $5.5 billion originates in security imports and $7.3 billion from other imports.

The private economy's debt originates in the import of ships and aircraft totaling $580 million; fuel, $1,480 million; and financial loans totaling $1.8 billion.

OAU COMMITTEE ON SAHARA MEETS IN NAIROBI

Sudanese Minister's Arrival

JN051204 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Nairobi, 5 Feb (SUNA) -- Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, Sudanese minister of foreign affairs, arrived here this morning heading Sudan's delegation to the meetings of the 5-member committee in charge of implementing the resolutions of the Organization of African Unity on the Western Sahara. The committee is scheduled to meet in Nairobi tomorrow.

The Sudanese minister was received upon his arrival by Dr Ouka, Kenyan minister of foreign affairs, and Yusuf Mukhtar, Sudan's ambassador to Kenya.

6 Feb Opening Meeting

EA062306 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] The meeting of foreign ministers of member states of the OAU, consisting [as heard] the implementation committee on Western Sahara, opened its deliberations today at the Kenyatta international conference center under the chairmanship of the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouko.

Opening the meeting, Dr Ouko, who is also the chairman of the OAU Council of Ministers, said that the ministers whose countries are members of the committee have convened to try and help the heads of state clarify issues on certain matters pertaining to the issue of Western Sahara, as formulated by the summit held in Nairobi last August. He said that the committee will be receiving reports from certain officials of the OAU so that the ministers can submit those reports to the heads of state and government. Dr Ouko added that after the meeting of the heads of state and government on Monday, there will be another meeting of the same personalities on the problems in Chad.

Meanwhile, it has been confirmed that the presidents of Algeria, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zambia will attend the meetings on Western Sahara and Chad. They will start arriving tomorrow.

Moi Meeting With Presidents

EA072020 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Excerpt] The chairman of the OAU, H.E. President Daniel arap Moi, this evening met the presidents of Nigeria, Guinea and Algeria at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

President Shehu Shagari and President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea have come to Nairobi to attend the implementation committee meeting on Western Sahara which begins tomorrow. Presidents Shagari and Sekou Toure are also expected to attend the meeting of the standing committee on Chad, which will take place on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Nigeria and Guinea are members of the implementation committee on Western Sahara as well as the standing committee on Chad.

President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria, whose country is an interested party as far as the Western Sahara issue is concerned and an observer in the Chadian issue, arrived a few minutes after President Shagari and President Sekou Toure.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID MAKES STATEMENT, DEPARTS FOR NAIROBI

LD071400 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Chadli Bendjedid, president and FLN secretary general, left Algeria for Nairobi this morning to take part in the work of the OAU committee entrusted with implementing the 18th summit conference resolution on self-determination in the Western Sahara.

The presidential delegation includes Brother Mohamed Ben Yahia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs; Brother Abdelmajid Meziane, minister of culture; and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Before leaving, the president made a short statement to the national press, in which he said: I am leaving for my third trip to Nairobi in less than a year, responding to an invitation from President Daniel arap Moi, president of Kenya, current OAU president and chairman of the committee responsible for the implementation of self-determination in Western Sahara. I believe this is a clear expression of Algeria's desire to support the OAU and a practical and tangible contribution to implementing its resolutions and decisions.

The president added that Algeria will spare no effort to help the committee charged with achieving a just peace in the Western Sahara in response to the legitimate aspirations of the people and in implementation of the African Continent's will and the resolutions of international organizations. The president added that there is no doubt that any attempt to ignore the people's will, obstruct the committee's efforts or weaken its resolutions will negatively affect the power of our organization, reduce its credibility and restrict its effectiveness in the future, both in similar cases and in confronting the political and economic challenges to which the continent is exposed.

The president then affirmed that Algeria will always be faithful to its obligations and expressed the hope that wisdom and rationality will triumph so that harmony will return to the area and a new page of fruitful and constructive cooperation will be opened, embodying the principles of positive, good neighborly relations. The president reiterated that Algeria feels cordiality and respect toward its brothers and will abide by any choice of the Western Sahara people for a free, general and comprehensive plebiscite without any pressure or outside interference.

The president concluded his statement by expressing the hope that the brothers in Morocco and the Western Sahara will meet to put an end to this situation which is tearing the area apart, the negative repercussions of which will be reflected on the entire continent and throughout the Third World.

LIBYA

GOVERNMENT INFORMS OAU OF U.S. PRESENCE IN CHAD

LD061512 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah informed the current chairman and the secretary general of the OAU about the presence of U.S. Armed Forces elements among some units of the African peace-keeping forces in Chad and informed them that the U.S. military presence in Chad is considered a violation of OAU resolutions. At the same time, that presence constitutes a danger to security and stability in Chad and, subsequently, to the security and safety of Africa.

AL-QADHDHAFI URGES SEIZURE OF PUBLICATION OFFICE

NC060732 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpts] The night before last, the revolution leader met with the league of writers and urged them to invade the general establishment for publication, guidance and information. During his meeting, the brother leader stressed the need to seize and administer this establishment in their capacity as the intellectual vangaurds in the era of the masses.

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION ARRIVES 6 FEB FOR VISIT

LD071034 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Feb (JANA) -- Jaime Wheelock, member of the Nicaraguan Sandinista National Front Command and minister of agricultural development agrarian reform; Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto; and Finance Minister Joaquim Cuadra, arrived in Tripoli last night for a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah within the framework of efforts aimed at strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation between the Libyan Arab and the Nicaraguan peoples.

Joint Committee Meets

NC080816 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] The joint Libyan-Nicaraguan committee began its meetings yesterday at the meeting hall in the people's office for foreign liaison. Participating in the meetings on the Libyan side were the secretary of the general people's committee for justice, the secretary of the general people's committee for agrarian reform and land reclamation, and the secretary of the people's office for foreign liaison; on the Nicaraguan side were Jaime Wheelock, member of the Sandinist National Front Command and minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform, and the foreign and finance ministers.

At the outset of the meeting, the member of the Sandinist National Front Command delivered a speech lauding the courageous stands of the Great al-Fatih Revolution and its confrontation with all the imperialist American plots and provocations. He emphasized Nicaragua's solidarity with the Libyan people in confronting imperialism and its agents.

The secretary of the general people's committee for justice welcomed the Nicaraguan revolution delegation and said the Libyan Arab people and the Nicaraguan people will confront all the plots and provocations carried out by the U.S. administration, emphasizing that the [words indistinct] augur the end of imperialism and [word indistinct].

TRIPOLI 7 FEB REPORTS ON SITUATION IN SUDAN

Guards' Attack

NC070705 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Arrivals from Khartoum have stated that a group of (?agent) Numayri's guards, led by a captain, yesterday attacked the entrance to the presidential headquarters in Khartoum. The collaborators of Deputy Defense Minister Gen Fathi Abu al-Hasan attacked these soldiers from the rear, seriously wounding three of them; the three soldiers have probably died as a result of their wounds. Two other soldiers were arrested. Numayri's authorities blockaded the area following the incident and launched a wide-scale search of the house and citizens.

This daring operation is regarded as clear confirmation that Numayri's regime is now living its last moments and that the Arab people in Sudan are now more determined than at any time before to overthrow this traitor.

Attackers' Executed

LD071354 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] The repressive authorities in Sudan have executed by firing squad five soldiers and three officers of various ranks, who were arrested yesterday after storming into the presidential headquarters in Khartoum and firing at the guards in an attempt directed against the ruler of Sudan.

According to an urgent dispatch from Khartoum, the death sentence was carried out against these eight men at dawn today in one of the military barracks in the outskirts of the capital.

According to other reports, the repressive regime in Sudan earlier last week executed more than 13 officers and men on charges of rebellion and the circulation of leaflets opposed to the ruling bloody regime.

Numayri Loses Support

LD071432 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Sources in close touch with Sudanese affairs have affirmed that the ruler of Sudan is living his last days now that he has lost all ability to rule and has been exposed and robbed of military and popular support.

According to these sources, a meeting of all the leaders of national action in Sudan was convened 17-21 January this year. It transpired at the meeting that all the elements on whom Numayri relied -- be they ministers, members of the Political Bureau of members of the Sudanese Socialist Union, or members of the so-called popular regional councils or regional commanders - opposed Numayri's decisions and actions.

Numayri, who attended the final session of the meeting, becamse hysterical and poured his wrath on the conferees. He abused them and described them as cowards. According to these same sources, Numayri affirmed at the conference that he is determined to continue with his so-called economic revival program by force.

The conferees asked that Numayri's powers be reduced, the Sudanese Socialist Union dissolved and its members put on trial. They also accused Numayri of isolating Sudan from the Arab nation and of approving the American presence in the country.

The sources pointed out that just as Numayri found himself rejected by the popular leaders, he has also found himself rejected by the entire army. Junior officers have declared their rejection of the regime's institutions and have asked Numayri to resign. They asked to meet with him and tell him openly of their posi on. But he refused to meet them. He decided instead to meet with the senior commands of the army.

The sources pointed out that the senior army commanders actually met with Numayri on 26 January when he was shocked by the officers reports of the disgraceful acts of the regime and the corruption Numayri's henchmen have been committing even inside the presidential palace itself, under the leadership of Baha' ad-Din Muhammad Idris, minister in charge of presidential affairs.

The supreme commanders of the Sudanese Army affirmed to the ruler of Sudan during the meeting that the army is not prepared to act against the Sudanese people and that it is not happy with the repressive methods used by the regime against the Sudanese people's ursurge. The army also refused categorically to be subservient to any foreign quarter.

According to these sources, following this stormy meeting at which Numayri was asked to resign because he was sick and incapable of ruling, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Muhammad Khalil issued a statement on the results of the meeting in which he affirmed that the Sudanese Army fully agrees on all issues facing Sudan and that its position toward them is firm and cannot be subject to bargaining.

The sources pointed out that such a stand by the army is extremely serious and proves that the ruler of Sudan has lost his last support.

Army Officers Dismissed

LD071400 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] According to reports received from Khartoum, 26 Sudanese Army officers have been relieved of their command duties by the ruler of Sudan.

These include Chief of Staff Lt Gen 'Izz ad-Din 'Ali Malik and five officers of major general rank including the commander of the airborne forces, Maj Gen Badawi al-Mubashshir, the commander of the Khartoum garrison, Maj Gen Nur ad-Din Mubarak and the commander of military intelligence, Maj Gen Ahmad Yahya 'Imran. They also include commanders of the transport corps, the training academy and directors of military operations and armed forces accounts departments. This is in addition to 13 brigadiers and 5 colonels.

MOROCCO

YUGOSLAV MINISTER MAKES DEPARTURE STATEMENT

LD070244 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1206 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Rabat, 6 Feb (MAP) -- Yugoslav Information Minister Ismailj Bajra left here Friday, ending a 4-day state visit to Morocco.

Before departure, Bajra expressed satisfaction at the talks held with Moroccan officials and mainly with Prime Minister Maati Bouabid and with the minister of interior and acting minister of information, youth and sports, Driss Basri.

About the agreement concluded between the two countries during this visit, the Yugoslav minister said the accord will boost bilateral cooperation in information, mainly television and radio, written press and news agencies.

He added that his talks with Moroccan officials also dealt with issues concerning the Nonaligned Movement of which both countries are active members.

OIL EXPLORATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH MOBIL

LD051428 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Energy Minister Moussa Saadi presided over a ceremony at the ministry for the signing of an important agreement and contract with the U.S. Mobil Oil Company for oil exploration. The agreement provides for oil exploration on the Tarfaya continental shelf. The total investment in the project is $117 million.

The agreement was signed on the Moroccan side by Ahmad Buhhuli, director of energy at the Energy Ministry, and Mohammad Douwayyib, director general of the national office of oil exploration and exploitation, and on the U.S. side by Mr (Bells), vice chairman of Mobil Oil and Mobil Oil International.

The ceremony was attended by the U.S. ambassador to Rabat.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI CALLS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING 22 FEB

EA071454 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Summary] President Numayri today summoned the People's Assembly to meet at its headquarters in Omdurman on Monday morning, 22 February.

VICE PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR NAIROBI 7 FEB

JN071145 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1320 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, third vice president and head of the state security organ, left Khartoum for Nairobi at 1100 today to head Sudan's delegation to the meetings of the 5-member committee in charge of implementing the resolutions of the OAU on the Western Sahara and of the other committee on Chad.

TUNISIA

BRIEFS

YUGOSLAV AGREEMENT -- Information Minister Tahar Belkhouda proposed to his Yugoslav opposite counterpart during a working session in Tunis this morning a draft agreement on information cooperation. The two ministers decided to link the two national news agencies before the end of February by a direct telegraphic line and to strengthen them with two offices, one in Tunis and one in Belgrade. They agreed to give priority in the next 2 years to intensifying exchanges in radio and television programs and publishing. During an exchange of views on the international situation, the two ministers expressed their preoccupation with relations between certain nonaligned countries and reaffirmed their complete support for the just cause of the Palestinian people. [Text] [Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 26 Jan 82 LD]

YAR-COOPERATION -- Tunisia and the Republic of Yemen concluded a programme of cooperation in matters of information. The programme signed on Thursday in Tunis provides for the exchange of publications, photographs and surveys on information and for the exchange of experiences in matters of press and exchange of visits between journalists' associations. It has also been decided to strengthen cooperation between "TUNIS AFRIQUE PRESS" news agency and that of North Yemen through the mutual publication of news and the coverage of events in each one of the two countries. [Tunis TAP in English 1423 GMT 5 Feb 82 LD]

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ARRIVES 6 FEB

AB070730 Paris AFP in English 0718 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Bangui, 7 Feb (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand's African affairs adviser, Guy Penne, arrived here yesterday for a 36-hour visit and reaffirmed France's desire to help with Central African Republic's recovery programme.

Mr Penne, who was met at the airport by Central African Foreign Minister Lt-Col Jean-Louis Yambala, is the first top French official to visit Bangui since Gen Andre Kolingba took power here last September. He said France admired what was already being done to tackle the country's economic problems.

During his stay, Mr Penne will confer with General Kolinga and senior government ministers.

CHAD

CABINET COMMUNIQUE ON NAIROBI SUMMIT, FIGHTING

AB051506 Paris AFP in French 1116 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Feb (AFP) -- The Chadian Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] will attend the African heads of state's summit on Chad scheduled to take place in Nairobi, a communique issued by the Cabinet after a meeting in Ndjamena on Thursday announced.

The communique does not say whether the Chadian head of state himself will represent his country at the Nairobi summit, however, it indicates that the Chadian people and Government have always maintained the view that the OAU and African countries can assist Chad in eradicating rebellion.

The communique, however, states that any attempt to impose a solution outside the framework of Chad's legitimate aspiration will be rejected by the GUNT.

With regard to the fighting still going on in the east between government troops and FAN, the communique notes bloody fighting and that the GUNT reassures the public it will continue to pull together all resources with a view to stopping the activities of the rebel forces. The GUNT, the communique continues, will continue within the framework of general amnesty to hold out a brotherly hand to all those who are destroying their own country.

According to the communique, a joint subcommittee on security at the Sudan-Chad border soon will be set up. It will include Chadian and Sudanese officials of Cabinet rank and will be charged with monitoring all border problems and checking all suspicious movements. It is recalled in Ndjamena that the decision to create a subcommittee on security was made in January when the Chadian head of state visited Sudan.

ZAIRE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DISCUSSES EDUCATION, BUDGET

AB060905 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Primary school teachers in Kinshasa who fail to report for duty by Monday, 8 February, at 0800 will simply be dismissed. This decision was made at the weekly meeting of the Executive Council -- the first to be held in February -- at the Ngaliema Mount, presided over by Gen Mobutu Sese Seko.

The implementation of the 1982 budget and problems of higher and university education were the main domestic issues discussed by the Executive Council. Thus, the state commissioners took all necessary measures to prepare and ensure the success of negotiations with the IMF and World Bank. The talks will bear particularly on the level of deficit of the 1982 budget. The council also discussed the nature and type of higher education in our universities and higher institutions of learning and wanted to know precisely its requirements.

Most of the discussions concerned education and some decisions were made in this regard. Thus, the forthcoming session of the party's Central Committee, which will begin on 1 March, will examine the type and nature of higher education needed in our universities and institutions of higher learning. Decisions made at the March session will take effect as from the next academic session in October. The issue of increasing number of schools with [word indistinct] in Kinshasa, compared with the number of such schools in the regions, will also be examined and fully discussed. Training must be geared toward the development of the entire council, the executive believes. At yesterday's meeting, the head of state presented a report to the state commissioners on the dispatch of the 411th Battalion of paratroopers to Chad as well as [words indistinct] already in Chad.

Postpones Chad Troops

AB061252 Paris AFP in French 1047 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] Kinshasa, 6 Feb (AFP) -- Zaire has decided to postpone the dispatch of a second battalion to Chad within the framework of the inter-African peace-keeping force in that country until the outcome of the Nairobi summit on 11 and 12 February is known. This was announced on Friday evening by Information Minister Kande Dzambulate. Reporting on the meeting of the Executive Council (government), which was held under the chairmanship of Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, Mr Kande noted that in conformity with its [words indistct] to finance entirely for 1 month or even longer, its contingent in Chad and that Zaire would decide on sending to Chad troops of the 411 Paratrooper Battalion to support the 311th Airborne Troops Battalion only after the Nairobi summit to discuss the financing of the inter-African peace-keeping force. These troops -- which were trained by the Chinese -- were visited last Monday at their base in Rumangabo, in the Kivu region, by President Mobutu who told them particularly that they should be ready to go to Chad.

AZAP PRAISES COOPERATIVE WITH PRC, FRG

AB051428 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1305 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 5 Feb (AZAP) -- Two foreign delegations -- West German and Chinese -- have been visiting our country since last Monday. The German delegation is taking part in the meeting of the committee preparing the great West German-Zairian joint commission which will meet in Bonn next September. The PRC delegation, which is made up mainly of trade unionists, is visiting our country at the invitation of the Zairian National Workers Union.

These events, which seem commonplace, are nevertheless very significant because they obviously illustrate our active diplomacy characterized by diversified relations of cooperation with all nations. The Chinese agricultural missions scattered throughout the country contribute to our agricultural development by teaching modern farming methods to our peasants and giving them selected seeds to improve their yield and increase production. And, to support this effort, the Chinese have created a factor in Kinshasa for the manufacture of small agricultural tools whose products the Executive Council will place at the disposal of the peasants at moderate prices. The long-standing cooperation with Bonn has now been strengthened with the addition of rural water and electricity supply projects. We hope all these actions will be developed over the years in order to further strengthen the ties of cooperation between Zaire and China on one hand and our country and the FRG on the other in the interest of our three countries.

GHANA

PNDC APPOINTS LAST TWO REGIONAL SECRETARIES

AB070810 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] All the nine regions of the country now have secretaries. The last two for the Eastern and Northern Regions have been appointed by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC]. They are John A. Ndeburgre for the Northern Region and Yaw Akwasi Sarpong for the Eastern Region. According to a statement by the PNDC, their appointments take immediate effect.

ATIM URGES NATIONAL PRESS, TITLE ABOLISHMENT

AB050742 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] A law will soon be passed by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] to make one of the press houses a national press for the people's defense committees. The hint was dropped by Chris Atim, a member of the council and chairman of the interim national coordinating committee of the people's defense committees, when he addressed executive members of the various defense committees in the greater Accra region. He said for the committees to operate successfully there is the need for a means of communication.

Mr Atim observed that members of most of the committees have assumed titles like president and vice president. He said such titles should be abolished immediately since there is a tendency for those people to acquire certain powers and suppress other members. Defense committees, he remarked, are a simple affair and should not be made bureaucratic by creating complicated titles.

The PNDC secretary for greater Accra, Atukwei Okai, reminded defense committee members that they should not see their positions as an opportunity to make money. He said the revolution has made every Ghanaian a major shareholder of the Republic of Ghana.

OPPOSITION TO REGIME GROWING; OFFICERS ARRESTED

AB061020 Paris AFP in French 0732 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpt] Accra, 6 Feb (AFP) -- The new military regime in Ghana, which came to power with the 31 December coup d'etat, causes some disenchantment, indeed outright opposition, even in the army, observers in Accra note.

The warning given by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings to the enemies of the revolution during a meeting in Accra on Thursday is interpreted as a sign of the increasing hostility faced by the new regime from among the ranks of the armed forces and more especially within the navy.

Reliable sources in the Ghanaian capital state that a certain number of officers have been arrested at Takoradi, Ghana's major naval base 250 km west of Accra.

The confidence which the Ghanaian population, tired of the excessive corruption which prevailed under Limann's regime, gave to the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], presided over by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, is crumbling from day to day, observers add.

The council's hesitations in bringing about the changes promised, and much desired, as well as the increasing difficulties in supply, of both basic food items and essential commodities, especially in Accra, are tarnishing the image of the new regime. The extortion committed by some soldiers who did not hesitate to exact sums of money from traders or destroy stalls before the authorities took control of affairs are far from bringing serenity to people's minds.

BRONC-AHAFO SECRETARY SAYS SMUGGLERS TO BE SHOT

AB081003 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] Anyone caught smuggling cocoa and other commodities out of the country will be shot. Addressing a durbar to round off this year's celebration of the Kwafie festival of the chiefs and people of Berekum, the Provisional National Defense Council secretary for Brong-Ahafo, Mr Sara Mansa, said Ghana has not been able to make any meaningful headway since independence because of smuggling and antieconomic activities.

KWEI WARNS LANDLORDS HOUSES MAY BE CONFISCATED

AB060731 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Excerpt] A member of the Provisional National Defense Council, J.A. Kwei, has announced that the council will soon come out with a law prohibiting the use of government funds to furnish bungalows for top officials. He also warned landlords who refuse to reduce their rents that their houses will be confiscated by the state and they themselves will become tenants and pay rent to the government.

Addressing a workers rally at the Jackson Park in Kumasi yesterday, Mr Kwei said there is no justice in a system which benefits the rich and suppresses the poor. He noted that if there had been proper management of the country's resources over the past 25 years, the economy of the country would have been more buoyant. He said in the past, people in positions of trust only used such positions to amass wealth out of the toil of the ordinary workers, the farmer and the fisherman.

Mr Kwei said the oppressive system of the past must now give way to a new order in which those who toil to produce the nation's wealth will have a say in how such wealth is being managed. He told the cheering workers that the only way to prevent cheating and other malpractices at their places of work is through the formation of defense committees. He, however, urged the committees not to consider local trade unions as their enemies. The defense committees should supplement the efforts of the local union and work hand in hand to protect the interest of the people's army and police to deal with Kalabule traders, the people themselves should use their power to crush such thieves.

CHURCH CLOSED; MEMBERS ASKED TO REPORT

AB080915 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] The leader of "The Lord Is My Shepherd Church," Kumasi Amoakrom, Odeefo Asare, and all members of the church have been asked to report to the nearest police station or military barracks for their own safety. Anybody who sees Odeefo Asare and any of his church members should also report to the nearest police station or military barracks. "The Lord Is My Shepherd Church" has been closed down with immediate effect.

PNDC SAYS NO AMATEUR TRANSMITTERS ALLOWED

AB052225 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC) has directed that until further notice, no amateur transmitters will be allowed to operate in the country.

In this regard, all operators of amateur transmitters who have not handed over their transmitters to the nearest police stations as directed earlier should do so immediately.

Meanwhile, officials of organizations operating commercial transmitters who have handed over their transmitters to police stations are to retrieve them at their earliest convenience.

GUINEA-BISSAU

OBSERVERS LEAVE TO JOIN CHAD PEACE FORCE

AB080954 Paris AFP in French 0943 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] Bissau, 8 Feb (AFP) -- A delegation from the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces of Guinea-Bissau left Bissau for Chad, it is learned from official sources in Bissau.

The delegation, headed by Maj Ramalho Ncanha and including several officers, will join the inter-African peace-keeping force in Chad in an observer role.

This inter-African force is made up of contingents from Zaire, Nigeria and Senegal.

LIBERIA

DOE APPOINTS COUNCIL ADVISER, LABOR MINISTER

AB051931 Paris AFP in French 1823 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Monrovia, 5 Feb (AFP) -- It was learned from official sources in Monrovia on Friday that the Liberian head of state, CIC Samuel K. Doe, has appointed his labor minister, Maj Moses Duopo, adviser to the ruling People's Redemption Council. Major Duopo will be replaced at his ministerial post by the deputy minister of public works, Mr David Dwanyen, the same source said.

FORMER MINISTERS, DEPUTIES DISCHARGED FROM ARMY

AB071235 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 7 Feb 82

[Text] Four officers of the Armed Forces of Liberia have been retired from active service by the Ministry of Defense in Monrovia. Those retired are Maj George K. Dunye; Oscar Quiah; and Capt Samuel Dokey and Capt Augustine Piah, according to a Defense Ministry release issued in Monrovia. The retired officers served as ministers and deputy ministers in the People's Redemption Council [PRC] government and were proscripted into the Armed Forces of Liberia on 26 July 1981. Officials were all relieved of their ministerial portfolios in a Cabinet reshuffle last year and later transferred to the Ministry of National Defense for reassignment.

ANGOLA

LUANDA REPORTS JOINT STATEMENT ON CUBAN TROOPS

EA061506 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 6 Feb 82

[Text] The official talks between delegations of the Angolan and Cuban Foreign Ministries ended in Luanda yesterday with the signing by their respective ministers, Comrades Paulo Jorge and Isidoro Malmierca, of a program of cooperation in diplomacy and the release of a statement.

On the presence of the Cuban forces in Angola, the statement reiterated that the decision was made at the request of President Agostinho Neto and that is why the said forces are still in Angola at the request of the government -- to cooperate with the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] in their training and in defense of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of our country which is threatened and attacked by the South African racists, imperialism and their puppets and mercenaries.

Having condemned the plans for liquidating the Angolan revolutionary movement MPLA by the United States and its Pretoria agents and having recalled the invasion by the racists on October, 1975, against Angolan sovereignty, the statement considered the Cuban internationalist aid to the Angolan people in their resistance as a valuable contribution to the struggle of the African peoples against colonialism, racism and apartheid.

Unanimously, the Angolan and Cuban Governments stated that the presence and withdrawal of the Cuban forces deployed in Angola constitutes a bilateral question between the two sovereign states, the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Cuba. This is in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter.

As a result of constant South African attacks against our territory, the Angolan-Cuban statement said, implementation of the program for a gradual reduction of the Cuban forces from the People's Republic of Angola has repeatedly been made impossible. This is considered to be an absolutely sovereign and legitimate act of both countries. Consequently, it (?is not) related to the Namibian problem.

(?They hailed) SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people, and the insistence by the international community on a full settlement of the Namibian problem which alone will bring about a truly independent government and the total withdrawal of South African occupation forces beyond the Orange River. This would considerably diminish the dangers of aggression against Angola. Then the Angolan and Cuban Governments would consider beginning to implement the program for the gradual withdrawal of Cuban forces within a period of time to be agreed upon by the governments.

Accordingly, the statement released yesterday morning at the end of the visit to our country by the Cuban foreign minister said the Cuban Government reiterated that it will, without hesitation, abide by any decision adopted by the sovereign People's Republic of Angola Government on the withdrawal of Cuban forces.

TRADE UNION DELEGATES LEAVE FOR HAVANA CONGRESS

AB051846 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1645 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] Luanda, 4 Feb (ANGOP) -- A delegation of the Angolan trade union UNTA, headed by its secretary general, Pascal Luvualu, left Lunada today for Havana, to attend the congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) to be held from 8 to 15 February. It will be recalled that the Angolan labor union, which is affiliated with the WFTU, will take part in all the discussions and committees.

NAMIBIA

CHURCH OFFICIAL DISCUSSES INDEPENDENCE

AB051352 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1905 GMT 5 Feb 82

[Text] The Hague, 5 Feb (ANGOP) -- James Kauluma, Anglican bishop and president of the Namibian Council of Churches, said the people of Namibia still doubt the true objectives of the negotiations on the independence of this territory since they are taking place between South Africa and the Western contact group.

In a statement to the press at the end of a 3-day visit to the Netherlands, Kauluma described the talks on the future of Namibia as dilatory tactics by South Africa with the aim of establishing an antidemocratic form of government.

The prelate, who held talks in the Hague with Netherlands Foreign Affairs Minister Max van der Stoel and Development Aid Minister Kees van Dijk, stressed the need for the talks on Namibia to be centered first and foremost on the cease-fire and second, on free elections. The only thing we continue to demand is the right to determine by ourselves which party or group is to represent us. However, it is symptomatic that some fear free elections, said the president of the Namibian Council of Churches, who rejected the idea propagated by the West that SWAPO is an anti-Christian movement.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA DECRIES LACK OF WESTERN SUPPORT, ARMS

CA051424 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Feb 82

[Text] President Kaunda said today that Zambia's ambitious program after independence was to embark on a massive social and cultural development program of all the 53 districts at the time. The president, speaking during an interview at State House, said the programs (?went on well) with the construction of schools, hospitals and roads, which can be seen everywhere.

But, the president added during the interview with Mr James (Sinimataju), the executive producer of the Third World Media Services in New York, the program was interrupted by the White rebellion in Zimbabwe, which brought new (?angles) of interest to Zambia. Dr Kaunda said Zambia diverted itself to worries about its own security. He said as chairman of the Organization of African Unity, he and five foreign ministers in Africa went to the United States to try to explain the dangerous situation that was being fomented in southern Africa by the combined forces of rebel Rhodesia, Portuguese colonialism and South Africa's apartheid system. He said, as it is obvious today, America is at the head of Western powers who have been and are still supporting racial oppression in southern Africa. He said former American President Gerald Ford gave his delegation 45 minutes and when asked about arms to defend Zambia from [word indistinct] raids, the United States completely ruled out any possibilities of assisting Zambia's arms to defend itself. President Kaunda said his subsequent requests for sophisticated weapons from all Western nations were rebuffed.

The president lamented at the present West's uproar over the so-called violation of so-called human rights in Poland, which he said clearly demonstrates the mental blocks, double standards and bias. Blacks in southern Africa have for centuries been suffering at the hands of white oppressors but the West has all along turned a blind eye. He said when blacks want to fight racial oppression, they are denounced as terrorists and when the people of Poland fight (?for) the same kind of oppression, they are described as heroes. Dr Kaunda then revealed that the revolution in southern Africa will be the only one of its kind to be based on race and he blamed it on the unprincipled stand of the West in the region.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE ACCUSES ZAPU OF HIDING ARMS FOR OVERTHROW

LD080634 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 Feb 82

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, says the friendship that exists between opposition parties and the government can end if plans to undermine the government continue. Comrade Mugabe said this in Norton yesterday when he addressed thousands of cheering people. He confirmed that the government is to seize the ZAPU-owned farms where police uncovered 30 arms caches containing thousands of weapons, including SAM-7 missiles. The prime minister accused ZAPU of using the many farms it bought after independence to hide arms with the aim of overthrowing the people's government.

Minister of State Comments

LD071148 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Feb82

[Summary] The Zimbabwean minister of state responsible for security, Mr Emerson Munangagwe, says the discovery of several large stores of arms on farms owned by the PF party of Mr Joshua Nkomo affects the trust that should exist between the armed forces.

Commenting on the find, Mr Munangagwe said he found it hard to believe that the leadership of Mr Nkomo's party, which is a minority partner in the ruling coalition, did not know about the weapons. A correspondent in Salisbury says the discovery is likely to worsen the already strained relations between Mr Nkomo and Prime Minister Mugabe.

At least two top generals in the Zimbabwe Armed Forces are former commanders of Mr Nkomo's Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army [ZIPRA] guerrillas.

Mr Munangagwe, who is a member of the ruling ZANU Central Committee, also revealed that the government has found several million dollars' worth of cached arms in two former ZIPRA assembly points which were closed over the past 10 months. The camps were at (Mushumbe Pools) in northern Zimbabwe and at Gwaai River in the west.

VISITING BULGARIAN OFFICIAL DISCUSSES TRADE

CA031148 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 2 Feb 82

[Text] The visiting Bulgarian first deputy minister for foreign trade, Comrade Atanas Ginev, says trade between Zimbabwe and his country will improve this year. In an interview with the ZBC in Salisbury today, Comrade Ginev said tobacco imports from Zimbabwe and Bulgarian exports like chemicals and fertilizers will be increased. He said he had held discussions with the minister of mines, Comrade Nyagumbo, on cooperation in the field of mining engineering. He said a joint committee is to be set up in March this year to determine possible areas of cooperation in training programs.

Comrade Ginev also disclosed that discussions were held with the minister of transport, Comrade Chinamano, on the possibilities of establishing air and marine shipping services. He noted that such services will help the transportation of goods such as fertilizers and tobacco between the two countries. He added that the shipping services will have to be conducted with the help of Mozambique.